

CRUMBS
of
COMFORT

And Godly
PRAYERS
With
Thankful

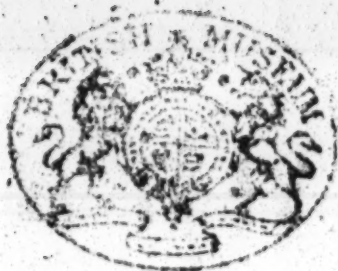
Remembrance
of Gods won-
derful deliv-
erances of this
Land.

Printed for
Charles Brown

Perfection

Redeem

Imagines



THE
PRINTER
TO THE
READER.

Courteous Reader,

THE truth I said
in the former
Editions of this Book;
the desire of a Prayer-
A 2 Book

To the Reader,

Book in this Volume,
was the first motive
that made me gather
some Prayers out of
divers Mens Work,
which were either
common, or out of
Print; and to get some
Godly Ministers of
mine acquaintance, and
so make up this Book
of Crums, which
therefore first so called
of the manner of ga-
thering

To the Reader.

thering. And being desirous to keep the Title and Manner of the Book, because I see it is well accepted of some good People, now to the Forty One Edition, I have obtained of a good Friend the Revising and Correcting of it in many things; who because of the Title, hath thought fit to place in some of the first

A 3 Leafs

To the Reader.

Leafs, certain passages
of Scriptures, by which
example thou mayst ga-
ther more for like occa-
sion, and for which it
may more justly bear
the name, The Crums
of Comfort ; to whom
I have also been behol-
den for some special
Prayers and Thanks-
givings. And though
before I used the letters
of their names, out of
whose

To the Reader.

whose Writings I had
collected some of the
Prayers; yet now, lest
any offence should be
taken, I forbear, wish-
ing thy true good and
comfort in this, and all
thou readeſt; and reſt,

Thine in the Lord,

M. S.

A 4

What

What Prayer is.

I.

Payer is a serious
lifting up of our
hearts unto God, in
the Name of Christ Jesus,
either to crave needful
things, or to give thanks
for things received.



*What time we are to take for
Prayer.*

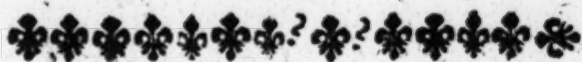
2 **W**E ought always
to pray, at least
three times a day : In the
A 5 Morn

Crumbs of

Morning, at Noon, and at Night. There are three special occasions for it: The entrance upon the days calling; the receiving of Gods creatures for our enabling; going to rest after our travel. Look back in these, how God hath preserved, provided, & blessed thee, and they are answerable occasions of praise. See *Dan. 10.* and *Psal. 55. 17. evening and morning, and at noon, will I praise thee.* And in *Pf. 119. 164. Seven times a day do I praise thee.* And more the Apostle in *1 Thes. 5. 17. saith Pray continually.* And *v. 18. In all things give thanks.*

First,

Comfort.



*First, prepare thy heart, then
seek the Lord by Prayer.*

3 **I**F thou art to come before a King, or great Person, thou wilt consider for what thou comest to him; and wilt order thy self in *behaviour, apparel, and words*, and frame thy self to all dutiful *reverence and seemliness*: Much more order thy self to come before thy Glorious Creator, the King of Kings. Eccles. 5. 2. *Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thy heart be hasty to utter a thing before God; for God is*

in

Crumbs of
in the Heavens, and thou art
on the Earth, therefore let
thy words be few.

What gesture we are to use
in Prayer.

4 **T**HE most decent, and
fittest gesture is *knee-*
ling, and looking up to *Hea-*
ven, especially when we
desire mercy, grace or any
blessing to come down up-
on us; *groveling* or *looking*
downwards to the *Earth*,
when we remember and
betrail our sinful life past,
Acts 7. 60.

Yet any decent gesture
may be used, so it be come-
ly, and serve for our furthe-
rance in devotion, or better
ex-

Comforts.

expressing our affections. It may be either in going, standing, sitting, or lying.

We may pray also either with voice, as *David* in his *Psalms*; or in silence, as *Moses* and *Nehemiah*.

Besides our most special *Devotions* at set times; we may use *Ejaculations* at all times upon every occasion; which are short desires of the heart lifted up to God with great fervency.

*Why God sometimes doth not
hear our Prayers.*

5 **F**irst because sometimes we do ask we know not what, *Mat. 20, 22.* And
Jesus

Crumbs of

Iesus answered and said, Ye ask ye know not what. The things may be good, but not good or fit for us.

Another reason, because we ask amiss. *James 4. 2. Ye ask and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may lay out the same upon your pleasures.*

God doth also defer sometimes in that which he will hear, and delays granting what we desire, that he may the more stir up our *Faith* and *Hope*, and make us more careful and diligent to pray; and that we may the better esteem his Gifts when we have them, and shew our selves more

Comfort.

more thankful and obedient unto him for them.



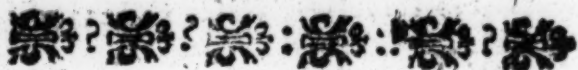
In thy Preparation endeavour to be,

6 **F**irst, truly humbled in thy self in sight of thy sins, and sense of the occasions of thy Prayer.

2. To be raised upon some comfortable assurance of Gods mercy in pardoning thy sins, and of his favour to hear and help thee thro' Jesus Christ.

Jam. 4. 10. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will raise you up.

Crumbs of



A good means to help us in preparation, and to stir us up to Prayer, would be,

7 *F*irst, a pious consideration of the greatness, and goodness of our heavenly Father.

Secondly, a sense of our own unableness to crave of God his holy Spirit to assist us in our Prayers.

Thirdly, the present reading, or serious (though brief) meditating on some such part of God's Word, as either makes for our *Humiliation* or *Faith*, or may come nearer, or concern, the

Comfort.

the special occasion of our Prayers.

Alms and *Fastings* are good means to further our private Devotions as well as the more publick, as we may see *Acts* 10.

Some special passages of Gods Word gathered up, wherewith the poor Soul that is not more able to provide by his own skil, or hath not alwayes at hand better store, may pick some comfort, & gather some strength.

8 **F**OR Humiliation in sight of thine own sin meditate on these and such like places.

John

Crumbs of

I John 9.1. God heareth not sinners.

Prov. I. 24. Because I have called, and ye refused, I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded.

Vers. 28. Then they shall call upon me, but I will not answer: They shall seek me early, but they shall not find me.

Isa. I. 14, 15. Bring no more oblations in vain. When you shall stretch out your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you; and though you make many Prayers, I will not hear; for your hands are full of blood.

9. To

Comfort.



9 **T**O help the Repen-
tant's faith, by the
mercy and grace of God
in Christ, meditate on these
and such like places.

*1 John 2. 1. These things
write I unto you, that you sin
not, and if any man sin, we
have an Advocate with the
Father, Jesus Christ the
Righteous, and he is the pro-
pitiatio[n] for our sins.*

*Isa. 1. 16. Wash you, make
you clean, take away the evil
of your works from before
mine eyes, cease to do evil,
learn to do well: Come now
let us reason, &c.*

1 Cor.

Crumbs of

I Cor. 6. 11. Such were some of you, but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

Rom. 8. 33, 34. Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's chosen? It is God that justifieth, who shall condemn?

Heb. 10. 22. Let us draw near with a true heart; in assurance of faith, our hearts being pure from an evil conscience.

I Joh. 5. 14, 15. And this is that assurance that we have in him, that if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us. And if we know

Comfort.

know that he heareth us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the Petitions which we have desired of him.

Mat. 11. 28. Come unto me all ye that are weary and laden, and I will ease you.

Psal. 50. 15. Call upon me in the day of trouble, so will I deliver thee, and thou shalt glorifie me.

Eccles. 7. 14. In the day of affliction consider.

Heb. 12. 20. He chasteneth us for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.

Vers. 11. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous, but after-

Crumbs of

afterwards it bringeth the quiet fruit of righteousness, unto them which are thereby exercised.

James 1. 4. Let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, lacking nothing.

Psalms 126. 5. They that sow in tears, shall reap in joy.

Rom. 15. 4. Whatsoever was written aforetime, was written for our learning, that by patience and comfort of the Scripture, we might have hope.

Rom. 8. 26. The Spirit helpeth our infirmities: for we know not how to pray as we ought; but the Spirit it self maketh request for us, with

Comfort.

with sighs that cannot be expressed.

Gal. 4. 6. God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, which cryeth Abba, Father.



*Holy Sentences containing
useful matter for meditation.*

First, in the multitude
of the sorrows of
my heart; thy Comforts
have refreshed my Soul.

2. Be not dismayed, having nothing, be thou the servant of God, and thou hast more than the Lords of the Earth in their great possession.

3. If

Crumbs of

3. If thou beest truly godly, thou shalt never fall into extreme misery.

4. Godliness brings contentation, and being contented, thy wealth exceeds the Treasures of the mighty.

5. Earthly Jewels are as Chaff or Dutt, for Riches fly away with the wings of the wind, but the Graces of the Spirit remain for ever.

6. Wouldst thou have thy Children thrive after thee, & leave them a good Estate? look not to thy Chests, or Bags, or store of Land which thou hast to leave them; but be thou Vertuous, Godly, and Religious

Comfort.

ligious, and God will be the bringer up of thy Children, and prepare a portion for them.

7. True blessedness doth not consist in great wealth, but they which hunger after Righteousness shall be satisfied.

8. *Lazarus* went from Poverty to Riches, and *Dives* from Riches to Poverty.

9. Howl ye rich Men, for the Canker and rust of your Gold and Silver shall one day witness against you.

10. Godliness begins with Wants, Sorrows, Sadness, Stings of Con-
B science,

Crowns of

science, Losses, Poverty, Affliction of Soul, dejection of Spirit, Penitency for Sins, These be the Harbingers of Heaven.

11. The rich hath pleasure, the poor pain, in this World: But the rich are tormented, and the poor comforted in the World to come.

12. My son, take heed to thy own heart. For thy heart is deceitful, and may well be called the great Impostor of the World.

13. The righteous find the way sooner to Heaven in Prison, than the Prince in his Palace.

14. Never fear what
God

Comfort.

God doth against thee, but rather be afraid what thou dost against God.

15. Crosses to the Godly reclaim them, Crosses to the wicked consume them.

16. Persecutions in their own natures are curses, but if we put them to the best use, they are blessings: For through the Valley of Tears, we come to the Hill of Joy.

17. He that will not seek God in prosperity, the Lord will not be found of him in adversity; for how can we look that GOD should save us, if we do not serve him.

18. Make not Religions

Crumbs of

the Cloak and Colour for deceit: For then thou wilt find thy self deceived, and God will disappoint thy presumption.

19. The Law of nature concurs with the Law of God. *Do to all as thou wouldest be dealt withal,* and then thou maist expect a blessing upon all thou takest in hand.

20. As one Lamp lights many, and gives ten times more than it hath it self, and loseth none of its own light, so one godly man by his good example, makes many more, always maintaining good to himself, and assisting others.

21. If

Comfort.

21. If thou be so sinful a sinner as not to think of sin and of thy Death, and Resurrection; Remember thy own Conscience shall at last accuse thee: For as a man dies, and worms are bred in the dead carcass to consume it; so the worm of thy Conscience shall come to testify against thee at the last day.

22. When thou art ready to commit a sin, think God stands before thee to persuade thee from it, the Devil behind thee to drive thee to it; thy own Conscience in the midst to terrifie thee after it: the Heaven above to witness
B 3 against

Crumbs of

against it; the earth below to swallow thee for it, therefore pray stedfastly that thou mayst be delivered from it.

23. Consider the Flower of the field, how it flourisheth in the Spring, and dieth in the Winter, and yet riseth to its former lustre; so remember thy life, thy death, and lastly thy Resurrection.

24. Wheresoever thou goest, ridest, & remainest, if thou be alone, take one of these Companions to thee, either thy *Prayer-Book* or thy *Bible*: good *thoughts*, or charitable *works*: for these four are the

Comfort.

the fittest Companions
thou canst have to be with
thee in any occasion
whatsoever.



Let thy Prayer be thus
Framed.

First confess thy sins.

Secondly, Crave Faith.

Thirdly, Desire Repen-
tance.

Fourthly, Perseverance
in good.

Fifthly, Directions for a
good life.

Sixthly, for the Church
and Family.

Sevently, Thanksgiving
for all benefits received.



*The Readers Prayer for the
right use of this, or some
other help of Devotion.*

II **M**OST gracious
Lord, which
knowest the grievous sins
and manifold infirmities of
thy poor and unworthy
servant, give me access
unto thy Throne of Grace
by Christ Jesus, and grant
that whatsoever I ask of
thee may be to the Glory
of thy Name, the good of
thy People, comfort and
salvation of mine own
Soul. Also grant me so to
make use of this and other
helps

Meditations.

helps of Devotion, that in
and by them I may chiefly
seek for, and stir up the
grace of thy holy Spirit,
whereby I may in heart
cry *Abba Father*, to thy
Heavenly Majesty; that
so thou mayst look on me
as thy Child, and pour on
me thy grace, whereby I
may be enabled to shew
my self thy Servant here,
and be accepted among
thy Children in Heaven,
through Christ Jesus, *A-*
men.



PRAYERS

AND

MEDITATIONS.

12

*A Morning Prayer at our
first rising from sleep.*

O Heavenly Fa-
ther, of all
Light, the true
Sun-shine, so open my
heart with this the open-
ing of my eyes, that it
may still be so fixed on
thee, that this day, and
all

Meditations.

all the rest of my life, I may find comfort and consolation in thee: And grant most merciful Father; as thou hast been my keeper this Night, for which I give thee most humble & hearty thanks, so thou mayst be my Guide and comfort this day, and all the days of my life. Grant this, good God and merciful Father for Jesus Christ his sake our Lord and Saviour, we intreat thee in that Prayer thou hast taught us.

Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.

Another



Another Morning Prayer.

13 **O** Most gracious God
and loving Father,
we heartily thank thee for
all thy loving kindnesſes
ſo abundantly ſhewed up-
on us : For our Election,
Creation, Redemption,
merciful Vocation, Juſtifi-
cation, Sanctification, and
continual Preſervation, &
for the ſame aſſured and
moſt comfortable Hope
which thou haſt given us
of our glorification in the
world to come. We praiſe
thy gracious goodneſs for
ſo mercifully preſerving us
this

Meditations.

this present night, and delivering us from all dangers both of Soul and Body, for that thou has given us so sweet & comfortable rest, and hast at this present brought us to the beginning of this day. And as thou hast safely preserved us unto this present hour, from all danger of this Life; so we beseech thee, to continue this thy favour towards us this day, & the whole course of our life. Suffer us not by vain allurements of this world to be drawn away into sin and wickedness; assist us with thy Grace and Holy Spirit, that we spend not
our

Prayers and

our times vainly or idly,
but that we may always be
diligently exercised in the
duties of our Calling, to the
benefit of our Brethren,
and discharge of our Con-
science: Grant that in all
our consultations, words &
works, we may ever have
Thee present before our
eyes, thro' Jesus Christ our
Lord, *Amen.*

Our Father which art, &c.

*A Prayer to be said when we
wash in the Morning.*

14 **O** Lord God Hea-
venly Father, wash
away

Meditations.

away, I beseech thee, our
sins, cleanse us from our ini-
quities; purge our hearts,
and purifie us wholly with
thy Grace, and as this wa-
tery Element washeth off
the filth from our Bodies,
so, we beseech thee, send
down thy heavenly grace,
to wash and cleanse our
Souls from sin; and grant
we may keep them this day
free from all spots of un-
cleanness, and all manner
of wickedness. Grant this O
gracious God, we beseech
thee, for Christ Jesus sake,
who therefore came to
take away the sins of the
world, hear and have mer-
cy upon us. *Amen.*

A



A Noon Prayer.

14. **O** LORD GOD,
glorious in Maje-
sty, strong in Power, migh-
ty in Deliverance: I poor
Worm, dust and ashes of
the Earth, present my self
before thee, most entirely
thanking thee for preser-
ving me the part of this
day past; and now I entreat
thee to preserve me the
rest of it coming; and grant
I may so carry my self in all
my affairs and occasions,
that I may find my self di-
rected by thy Heavenly
Wisdom, and thy Good
Providence over me; and

Meditations.

to that purpose (O Lord)
let me have thy fear before
mine eyes, thy help & as-
sistance to lead me in the
ways of godliness, righte-
ousness, and all true Holi-
ness. Keep me, O Lord, from
sin and wickedness, and
prosper and preserve me in
all happiness the rest of this
day coming, and thro' the
whole course of my life,
I beseech thee for Christ
Jesus sake. *Amen.*

A Prayer before Meat.

16 **O** Lord God bless &
sanctifie, we be-
seech thee, these thy good
Creatures which thou hast
pro-

Prayers and

provided for our nourishment, make them fit food for our bodies, that by the strength of them we may be quickned & made more apt and able to serve thee; and grant, O Lord, that as we are careful to provide food for our Bodies, so we may much more labor for the heavenly Bread, and be careful to gather of the *Crumbs of Comfort*, which fall from thy Table, that both our Souls & Bodies being fully satisfi'd, we may be made wholly fit to serve thee both now and ever, & walk acceptably before thee, till thou bring us to the place where we shall
never

Meditations.

never hunger & thirst more
but live eternally, through
Jesus Christ our Saviour.

God forgive us our sins,
increase our Faith, & give
us grace to bring forth the
fruits of Faith. *Amen.*



A Thanksgiving after meat.

17 **O** Lord we give thee
heartly thanks for
all thy blessings & benefits
bestowed upon us, and be-
seech thee, that as thou dost
cloath our Bodies, and now
hast also fed them with cor-
poral Food, so thou wilt
cover our Souls with thy
heavenly Graces, and nou-
rish them with the food of
thy

Prayers and

thy holy Word; and grant
(O Lord God) that as thou
hast been mindful of us in
satisfying our hunger, and
supplying our wants, we
maybe mindful of our poor
brethren, in affording them
such comforts as our abili-
ties can perform. And that
we may still enjoy both
these temporal and spiri-
tual blessings, we pray thee
continue thy goodness to-
wards us; keep and defend
thy church with every part
and member of the same:
Preserve Peace in this
Land, and help thy distres-
sed People, and such as
stand in need of thy Com-
forts. We beseech thee suc-
cour

Meditations.

cour all poor People, and
such as be in want. Reple-
nish the sad heart with joy,
release the prisoners, relieve
the Fatherless, and Wi-
dows, & send us also such
grace, that the rich may re-
member the Affliction of
Joseph, and the poor be
contented with the portion
which thou hast appointed
that we may all hunger
and thirst after Righteous-
ness, and be satisfied accor-
ding to thy promise. Grant
this (O Lord God) for Je-
sus Christs sake, to whom
with thee, and thy sancti-
fying Spirit, both now and
evermore, be all thanks,
praise, and glory. *Amen.*

An

Prayers and

An Evening Prayer.

18. **O** MOST gracious
Lord God and
loving Father, we heartily
thank thee for all thy lov-
ing kindness so abundant-
ly shewed towards us: For
our Election, Creation, Re-
demption, merciful Vocati-
on, Justification, Sanctifica-
tion, continual Preservati-
on, and for that same assu-
red and most comfortable
hope which thou hast gi-
ven us of our Glorification
in the world to come. We
do praise thy glorious
goodness for so mercifully
preserving us this present
day

Meditations.

day, & delivering us from perils and dangers both of body and soul ; for prospering and preserving us in health and prosperity, for keeping us from sudden death and all dangers, and giving us all things necessary for this present life, as Health, Food, Apparel, and all other convenient things needful. This gracious goodness of thine, we beseech thee (O Lord) to continue towards us for ever. And here, O Lord God, we offer unto thee our selves and ours, our Souls and Bodies ; we recommend our Lives, our Means, and all we have unto

Prayers and

unto thy gracious preservation and protection, in assurance that that cannot perish which is committed unto thee. Keep us this Night in safety, and grant, good Lord, that our bodies may sleep, and our Souls may watch for the coming of our Saviour, thy Son, Jesus Christ; that so our Souls and Bodies may be more apt and able to serve thee in that estate & calling wherein thou hast thought good to place us. We confess and acknowledge (O merciful God) that we are most miserable and wicked Sinners, as well by original corruption of our Nature,

Meditations.

as by the course of our evil and naughty life, we have and do daily break and transgress thy most holy Laws & Commandments both in thought, word, and deed. By the means of this sin and corruption, we do continually deserve most just condemnation, and to be for ever cast out of thy presence: Yet such is thy goodness towards us, that thou wouldest not suffer us thus to perish in our sins, but hast sent thine own dear Son, Christ Jesus to take upon him whatsoever is due to us, and to reconcile and make us one with thee again. In him therefore,

G

fore,

[Prayers and

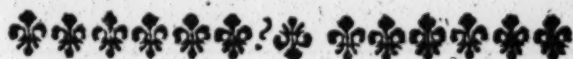
fore, and through him we
come unto thee, beseech-
ing thee for his sake, that
we feeling the grievous-
ness of our sins, . and
groaning under the bur-
then of them, may find the
release and ease of them,
in that we, through thy
holy Spirit, stedfastly be-
lieve that Christ hath born
the burthen of them even
for us. Grant, O Lord, that
we being assured hereof in
our Consciences , may
through thy holy Spirit be
renewed with more gra-
ces, and hate, detest, and
abhor all manner of Sin, &
study to live in all things
according to thy blessed
Will,

Meditations.

Will, during our whole life: grant this (O FATHER) for Jesus Christ his sake. *Amen.*

Lord increase our faith.

Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.



A Meditation at Midnight.

GRacious Lord, under whose protection we rest; when we awake, give us leave to think of thee, let us in our dreams draw near unto thee, do thou prepare us for thee, and let us never be taken unprovided, but

Prayers and

(with the wise Virgins)
ready prepared whensoever thou shalt call us, to go with thee; and so we recommend our selves, and souls, and all unto thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



*A Morning Prayer for
Servants.*

20 **O** Most gracious, and
merciful, glorious,
and everlasting Father,
which createdst Light and
Darkness: which hast
made all things, and go-
vernest and guidest all
things,

Meditations.

things, I poor, wretched, miserable, and wicked sinner, cast my self down here before thy Glorious Throne, begging, craving, and beseeching thee, even for Christ Jesus sake, to look down upon me, poor and distressed wretch, with pity and compassion, to pardon, forgive and forget all my sins Actual and Original, Omissions, and Commissions, or whatsoever; All (O Lord God) that I have committed against thee in thought, word, or deed: O pardon them, I beseech thee, bury them in the depth of the Sea, O LORD, open the streams

Prayers and

of thy Mercy, pour down
the showers of thy Grace;
quell the ill imaginations
and wicked thought of my
mind; settle assured Faith
in my Conscience; fill my
heart with thy Heavenly
Graces; grant in all my
Service, I may be thy true
Servant, & so for thee, may
do true Service to my Ma-
ster and Mistriss, that in all
duty I may be pleasing, &
acceptable to them; that
with all singleness and sin-
cerity of heart, I may do
all things, and deal up-
rightly in all that I take in
hand, and that at the last
I may hear with comfort
that joyful saying, *Well
done*

Meditations.

done thou good and faithful
Servant, enter into the rest
and joy of thy Heavenly
Master: which grant most
gracious God, for Jesus
Christ his sake. *Amen.*

*Our Father which art in
Heaven, &c.*



An Evening Prayer for a Servant.

21 **O** Lord God, I give
thee most hearty
thanks for that thou hast
granted me grace to pass
this day quietly, in doing
my duty towards my Ma-

Prayers and

ster ; grant I may pass this Night in quiet sleep, keep me (O Lord) set a watch over me, let thy good Angels guard me, and grant me such sweet & comfortable rest, that I may be refreshed in the morning, and made fit to serve and obey the ; and also to serve & please my Master in all uprightness and diligence. Let me ever be employed in thy service, and grant that sleeping and waking I may be acceptable unto thee, through Jesus Christ, in whom I take my rest, & commend my self, this House, and all my good Friends, and all my People,
now

Meditations.

now and for ever, to thy gracious and powerful preservation and protection, *Amen.*

Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.



A Prayer for Children.

22 **O** Eternal God, Creator and Governor of all things, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in him our gracious Father, we thy poor Children, beseech thee to give us thy Fatherly and Heavenly blessing, to take us into thy holy Government, so spend
C S the

Prayers and

the wings of thy protection over us : but first of all we do here confess, that we were conceived in sin, and brought forth in iniquity, and by reason of our original corruption, drawn from the loins of our Parents we are apt to every thing that is evil, averse to any thing that is good. Being now in the beginning of our days, we are ready to begin to sin, and now in our tender years are strong enough to act wickedness: Here therefore do we prostrate our selves before thee, with this Humble Petition, that thou wouldest be pleased
to

Meditations.

to mortifie the corruption,
and to suppress the rebel-
lion of our proud Nature,
to subdue our carnal lusts,
to over-rule our unruly
wills, to bring into order
our irregular affections, to
season our hearts with thy
Grace, and to plant in us
such a fear of thy Name,
that we may never depart
from thee : Regenerate us
with thy holy Spirit, that
we may be born again,
and have our souls bathed
in the blood of thy Son,
as well as our bodies were
washed with water in Bap-
tism ; Baptize us into the
death of Christ, that we
may die unto sin ; make us
to

Prayers and

to feel the virtue of his Resurrection, that we may walk in newness of life. Catechise us out of thy holy Word, that it may be a light to our feet, & a Lanthorn to our Paths; and frame us to the respective entertainment of their wholesome Counsel, who are able to instruct us. Preserve our Parents and Governours whom thou hast set over us, that they may bring us up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord: and grant in us obedience unto them, and a care of shewing all due reverence, not only to them, but also to all our Elders,
and

Meditations.

and Betters that are before us: Make us circumspect in all our ways, conscionable in our walking, & very wary with what persons we converse: Work in us betimes, both a desire and endeavour to serve thee; grant that we may remember thee our Creator in the days of our youth, that we may then set our selves to thy Worship, when we are best able to perform it. Make us daily to die unto Sin, hourly to live unto Righteousness, and grow in grace like young plants, and never leave growing, till we come to be tall Cedars in the Paradise of God;

Prayers and

God ; even perfect men in Christ Jesus. In whose sweet Name we beg at thy hand these, and all other blessings which thou knowest to be needful for us ; not doubting but that for his sake, who commanded Children to be brought unto him, favourably embraced them, and graciously blessed them, thou also wilt receive, embrace, and bless us now coming unto thee. So be it, O Father for the merits of that thy dear Son, who with thee & thy holy Spirt, be praised and magnified now and evermore, *Amen.*

Meditations.

A Prayer for Sunday Morning.

23 **O** M O S T Gracious
Lord God, with a
trembling heart, and fear-
ful Conscience, and watery
plants, and bended knees, I
here poor dejected wretch
prostrate my self at thy
Throne of mercy, O Lord,
I thank thee, that thou hast
brought this Week about
with me, helping me with
all things which were
needful for my body.
Now, O Lord fit and pre-
pare my Soul and Body for
thy Sabbath. I confess this
Night past, and all my life,
thou

Prayers and

thou hast been my refuge
& stay ; be unto me (O
Lord) as thou hast been
still my Protector, my e-
verlasting Defence, my
Stay, my Guide, my Hope,
my Hold ; my strong For-
tress, to which I may al-
ways resort : and as thou
hast appointed this Sab-
bath day for man to em-
ploy himself in thy service,
so, O Lord, grant my heart
to be free, and to rest, from
all worldly cares, and
wholly to be spent and
settled upon thee. Grant I
may apply my self to
learn Wisdom and Godli-
ness. Sanctifie my Soul,
my Body, my Mind,
Thoughts,

Meditations.

Thoughts, Deeds, and Words ; Lord, fit and prepare my heart to hear, read, practise, and follow thy Word, and as thou hast appointed thy Preachers to preach and instruct us this day in thy Word, so open our hearts, & preserve our senses to Purity and Godliness, that we may be always ready prepared for thy Kingdom. Grant unto us, that neither this day, nor at any time, any evil may take hold of us, but that all good may be so rooted in our hearts, and minds, that our thoughts may always be of thee. And (Lord,) we beseech thee

Prayers and

thee to grant us grace so to read and hearken to thy Word, that we may reap profit hereby in all things. Grant thy good Angels to guard us, and to be about us, that Satan may not hinder any good work in us, and grant that we may spend this whole day in the works of Sanctification, in publick and private praise and Thanksgiving, to thy glory, and our comfort and souls health, through Christ our Mediator and Redeemer, and by the help of the holy Spirit our Sanctifier, *Amen.*

Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.

Meditations.



A Prayer for Sunday night.

24 **P** Repare, O Lord, our hearts to Prayer, O Lord, open our mouths, and let our lips shew forth thy praise. Settle our affections upon thee, grant unto us (or me) our requests. Bend and prepare us for thy service, Lord we beseech thee.

O Our Everlasting and Loving Father, merciful good God. Creator, Guider, Defender, Protector, Governour, & Maker of all things, which createdst the light & darkness, who

Prayers and

who preparedst the Seas, & foundedst the dry Land; who hast made man, and gavest him Wit, Senses, & Understanding, to be a second means to help himself by thee: Look down we beseech thee, upon all miserable distressed Sinners, more especially upon us, and grant unto us pardon for all our sins, Actual and Original, Sins of Omission or Commission, Imagination, or any way whatsoever. O Lord, pardon them, quit and free us from all punishment; let them not be horror unto our Conscience, nor terror to our Souls, but wash and cleanse

Meditations.

cleanse us: O Lord, free and
quit them from us, let them
not come as a Judg to con-
demn us, nor choose our
sins as a Jury to overthrow
us; but (O Lord) busy
them, cast them behind
thee, forget and forgive
them; and we beseech thee
call us not to an account
for them. Let not mischief
fall upon us nor our Chil-
dren, we intreat thee; let
not misery come near unto
us, but bless and keep us,
we beseech thee now & for
ever. Lord, we beseech thee
to bless the Word which
we have heard preached
unto us this day, and also
that which we have read,
bless

Prayers and

blesse & sanctifie the same unto us, Lord, we beg of thee. Blesse likewise thy whole Church distressed, dispersed, and despised; help and relieve it in due time, and comfort all that be in danger: build it up where it is new begun, as namely in *Virginia, New-England, Summer Islands, the East and West-Indies*, Lord blesse the means provided for the furtherance of the same: and we desire thee to call home the *Indians* in those parts, the *Atheists, Hereticks and Papists* of this Land, and elsewhere, and all other, that they may see their errors
and

Meditations.

and blindness: the wilful
blinded *Jews*, good Lord,
call them to fulfil the
number of thy Church. O
merciful Father, we intreat
thee to relieve and release
all poor Prisoners and
Captives wheresoever; also
all that are troubled in
mind, those whose Consci-
ences are laden with grief
for their sins, Lord, ease &
receive them: poor Idiots,
foolish or frantick Persons,
restore their senses, wits, &
understanding; and grant
as thou hast left them to be
as it were Examples unto
us, to fear and tremble at
thy judgment on them, so
grant us (Lord) to have
the

Prayers and

the more care to fear and obey thee. Likewise comfort all fatherless *Children*, *Widows*, or poor oppressed *Servants* or *Captives*, and *Prisoners*, oppressed by *Slavery*, *Tyranny*, or *Misery*; put a period and an end unto their griefs, or else (Lord) give them hearts to bear them patiently. And now, O Lord, we intreat thee to receive us into thy protection, keep us, O Lord, from sudden *Death*, *Fire*, & *Thieves*, *Storms*, *Tempests*, and all *Affrightments*, succour and relieve us in all needs and dangers, & send thy good Angel to guard us. Now, O Lord, we return
with

Meditations.

with all thanks and praise
unto thee, and thy holy
Name for all thy blessings
unto this present ; so con-
tinue, we beseech thee, thy
love unto us. We have de-
served thy curse, thou in-
stead thereof hast given us
thy blessing; so continually
O Lord, pour down thy
blessings, and so bless us
with heavenly blessings,
that we may feel and find
thy true comforts. Also
bless us with earthly bles-
sings, that we may be help-
ful to others that feel want
or need. Grant these and
all good things, even for
Christ's sake, our Lord and
Saviour, *Amen.*

D

A

Prayers and

A Soliloque for Sunday at
midnight.

25 **L**ORD, how long shall
it be before I cele-
brate the Sabbath of a true
rest in thee? The world seeks
to destroy me, the Devil to
devour me, the flesh to de-
ceive me; come to my aid,
Lord, and I shall be in safe-
ty. Every one desires joy and
comfort. Lord, let me find
thee my only joy and com-
fort. I come and yield my
soul into thy hands, thou art
my father, dispose of me, as it
pleaseth thee. Come Lord Je-
sus, for I am come to thee;
stay with me, I am willing to
abide with thee, aid, support,
and

Meditations.

and remain with me this night, and for ever, rest with my thoughts, Amen.

A Morning Prayer for Sunday.

26 **O** LORD GOD,
which madest the
Heavens, the Earth, the
Sea, Man, Fish, Birds, and
Beasts, and all things: we
poor distressed Sinners,
full of sin and iniquity,
presume to bring unto
thee our wounded souls for
to cure, our sins and wic-
kedness have wounded us,
our transgressions have ta-
ken hold upon us, we are

D 2

ever

Prayers and

ever laden with filth, we daily provoke thy anger, week after week, day after day, hour after hour, and every minute we transgress by thought, word, or deed, we promise amendment, but daily run on in our course of wickedness; we have no mind of Heavenly things, but the Devil, the World and the Flesh, haunt us in all our thoughts, at all times, nay, in our very Prayers they betray us, and carry our mind another way, yet, Lord, as thou hast spared us this week past, and all the rest of our lives, so we beseech thee to spare
us

Meditations.

us this week coming, and all the time we have to live. And as we now begin the week, so grant (good God) we may begin with new spiritual Graces, to fear, serve, and obey thee all the days of our life. Keep us, O Lord, from sudden death, temptation, tribulation, persecution and affliction; prosper our Works, our Labours, our Pains; be with us at the beginning, proceeding, & ending in our Vocation and Calling; grant we may deal uprightly, and let the carriage of our affairs be so pleasing unto thee, that they may draw down

Prayers and

thy blessings upon us ;
keep us we pray thee, this
week following, thriving
in our Estates, and religi-
ous in our Carriage,
always meditating of
good, for thy glory the
Church and the Common-
wealth, so that whatsoever
we lay our hands unto,
thou wilt bend our hearts
to the same, so it be to thy
praise and glory. Receive
us, merciful Father, into
thy protection, and grant
us these Graces, and all
Comforts that are, may,
or can be for our furthe-
rance to Salvation, even
for thy only Sons sake,
Christ Jesus our Lord: to
whom

Meditations.

whom with thee and thy
Holy Spirit, be all praise,
Honour and Glory; now
and for ever. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

*An Evening Prayer for
Monday.*

27 **O**LORD, which art
our God, we in-
treat thee upon the bend-
ed knees of our bodies, to
accept this our Evening
Sacrifice of Thanksgiving
and Praise. We thank thee.
O Lord God, for keeping
us this day past, and all the
rest of our lives, for giving
us Food, Raiment, Health,

Prayers and

and prosperity, for keeping
us now and ever from sud-
den death, & all other mi-
series; so we beseech thee,
O Lord God, to keep us
this night coming in peace
and quietness, both in bo-
dy and goods: grant, good
God, unto us quiet rest
and sleep: keep us from
all evil whatsoever, we
humbly intreat thee, and
set thy good Angels as a
guard and watch over us,
that we may enjoy the
sweet rest and comfort of
this night, that we may be
the better able to go on in
thy service: and grant that
when we wake, we may
wake with the joy of thy
holy

Meditations.

holy Spirit, and to be settled in the true assurance of thy gracious protection, that we may daily find and feel some comforts of thy Heavenly graces in our hearts with joy and comfort. Grant this, dear Father, for Christ Jesus sake, our Lord and Saviour, *Amen.*

Our Father which art, &c.



A Morning Prayer for Tuesday.

28 **W**E intreat thee,
most merciful Father,
to accept our Prayers
D 5 ers

Prayers and

and prosperity; for keeping
us now and ever from sud-
den death, & all other mi-
series; so we beseech thee,
O Lord God, to keep us
this night coming in peace
and quietness, both in bo-
dy and goods: grant, good
God, unto us quiet rest
and sleep: keep us from
all evil whatsoever, we
humbly intreat thee, and
set thy good Angels as a
guard and watch over us,
that we may enjoy the
sweet rest and comfort of
this night, that we may be
the better able to go on in
thy service: and grant that
when we wake, we may
wake with the joy of thy
holy

Meditations.

holy Spirit, and to be settled in the true assurance of thy gracious protection, that we may daily find and feel some comforts of thy Heavenly graces in our hearts with joy and comfort. Grant this, dear Father, for Christ Jesus sake, our Lord and Saviour, *Amen.*

Our Father which art, &c.



A Morning Prayer for Tuesday.

28 **W**E intreat thee,
most merciful Father,
to accept our Prayers
D 5 ers

Prayers and

ers and supplications which we shall offer before thy divine Majesty we confess and acknowledge, thou mightest have poured down justly thy Judgments and Indignation upon us. In justice thou mightest have taken us this night past in our sleep, and plunged us suddenly into Hell and perpetual destruction: Yet in mercy thou hast spared us. O Lord, we heartily thank thee, that of thy great bounty thou hast kept us safe this Night, & brought us to the beginning of this Day; now spare us, good Lord, spare us, we beseech thee,

Meditations.

thee, and as thou hast ever
been our defence, so we
beseech thee defend and
protect us hereafter, that
we may become thy faith-
ful Servant and followers.
Bless we beseech thee, this
day and for ever, all our
studies, labours, & travels;
further our endeavours:
help us in our Trading,
help us in our Necessities,
and guide us in our ways,
aid us in all good works:
preserve us from all sin &
wickedness, and deliver us
in all temptations; bless,
we beseech thee, our
whole Household, and all
about us, be merciful to
our Friend; & Foes, lessen
the

Prayers and

the number of our Foes,
increase the number of our
Friends, bless our Neigh-
bours, grant unity, con-
cord and love betwixt
them and us, keep them
and us, and all about us,
now and for ever. Grant
us, good Lord, full par-
don of our sins, and
true and lively hope in thy
mercies, through Christ
our Saviour, *Amen.*

*Our Father which art in
Heaven, &c.*



*An Evening Prayer for
Tuesday.*

29 **H** Eavenly God, and
merciful Father,
assist

Meditations.

assist us in our Prayers, & grant us our requests, we humbly intreat thee. Look down, O Lord. look down, we beseech thee, and grant our requests. We thank thee that thou hast kept and preserved us this day, and all the rest of our lives to this present, in health and prosperity, and given good success to our travels and studies; Merciful Father, we intreat thee, that as thou hast kept us this day past, so we beseech thee to keep us this night coming; and as thou hast appointed times and seasons, as to be the third night in this week, so we beseech

Prayers and

beseech thee, set a second watch over our Souls and Bodies, that we commit no sin in thought nor deed: grant us quiet sleep, comfortable rest; keep and defend us from sudden death, and fearful affrightments, danger of fire or tempests, disturbance by Thieves, or any other danger whatsoever: and grant, as we now lie down to rest in bed, so we may remember the rest of our bodies in the grave, till it please thee to raise us. Bless this Night, and for ever, all that be forced to travel by Land or Water, all poor Soldiers that keep Watch
and

Meditations.

and Ward, and we beseech thee so so watch and wake with them and us, that we may rise in the morning to give praise and thanks unto thee, through Christ Jesus our Lord and Saviour, *Amen.*

Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.



A Morning Prayer for Wednesday.

30 **O** Eternal, merciful, and loving Father, I intreat thee to look down upon me wicked & wretched sinner, and to grant my request, O Lord,

I

Prayers and

I give thee humble and hearty thanks, for keeping me this night past, & that thou hast safely brought me to the beginning of this day : defend me, O Lord, in the same; & grant I may spend this day to thy glory, my comfort, and good example of all that are about me. O Lord, I beseech thee, be unto me a Guide and Protector over my ways, works, and words, that I shall walk, do, or speak this day, and all the rest of my life. Grant I may wholly dedicate my self unto thee, and strive to live more godly and purely ; and always study

Meditations.

study to fear, serve, and obey thee, and to set forth thy praise, that I may find thy favour, mercy, and goodness, shewred and poured upon me, both now and for ever hereafter: grant this dear God, and merciful Father, as we beg in that Prayer which thou hast taught us, saying,

Our Father which art, &c.

An Evening Prayer for Wednesday.

31 **O** MOST gracious
God and heavenly
Father, renew, I beseech
thee, my strength to pray-
er. As the Eagle renew-
eth

Prayers and

eth his age, so let me renew in Grace. O Lord, I beseech thee, accept this Evening Prayer for all thy mercies. I have sinned (O Lord) against thee, in thought, word, and deed, this day, and all the days of my life I have done wickedly, in so much that I am ashamed to confess my sins. Yet thou hast spared me this day, and all my life past. O Lord, I beseech thee, if I have done any thing this day, or at any other time heretofore, that hath been displeasing unto thee; pardon it I beseech thee, forgive it I intreat thee, forgive it.

Meditations.

I desire thee, and finally quit and free me from the punishment of the same; O Lord, bless and keep me this Night, and this House where I am, and each of us from all bodily and ghostly Enemies, and from all ill Dreams, and Fantasies, and suggestions of the Devil, from all storms and tempests, from fire, sudden death, and danger, good Lord deliver us all; and grant we may rise in the Morning to praise thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.

Prayers and



*A Prayer at any time in the
night, in the time of dan-
ger or fear.*

32 **O** LORD what shall
I do ? Whither
shall I flie ? Where shall I
be safe, but with thee ?
Take me, receive me, keep
and defend me now and
for ever. O Lord, give me
quiet rest and sleep, and
protect me, and grant me,
and all in this house, com-
fort in thee, this night, and
for evermore. *Amen.*

A

Meditations.

A Morning Prayer for Thursday.

33 **O** Heavenly Father
and good GOD,
raise and rouse up my dull
Senses. As the morning
Lark flyeth up with sweet
singing, still looking up-
wards towards thee: So, O
Lord, grant my heart, eyes
and affections, and all may
be lift up unto thee. **O**
Lord, it is thy Mercy that
hath kept me this night
past, and brought me to
the beginning of this day,
I give thee hearty thanks
for the same: So, O Lord,
guide and govern me this
day

Prayers and

day, that I may walk upright in all my dealings, be true and just in all my doings; and give me the Sanctification of thy Holy Spirit to find and feel thy help in the use of prosperity and health, and happiness, that shall tend to the setting forth of thy praise and glory, that I may so enjoy the benefits of this day, that I may find and feel thy comfort, through Jesus Christ our only Lord and Saviour,
Amen.

An

Meditations.

An Evening Prayer for Thursday.

34 **O** Most Omnipotent God, and Heavenly Father, most glorious Creator; I intreat thee to grant my request, & accept this my Evening Sacrifice of Prayer and Thanksgiving. I beseech thee be a powerful Protector and Defender of me this night: & as thou hast been (O Lord) my Defender all this Week past, so I beseech thee, be a defender of me all the part that is to come. Keep me in thy protection, shield me

Prayers and

me from all dangers, defend me from sudden death; and send, I pray thee, thy good Spirit to watch over me this night, and for ever hereafter. I thank thee for blessing me this day past, and I intreat thee, good God, so to continue thy blessings, and to increase them more and more towards me, that I may feel & find that thou, O Lord, art my everlasting shield and succour. And, heavenly Father, let me feel those joys that be a comfort unto my Soul, & I beseech thee grant my very dreams may be of heaven, and heavenly Joys, and
grant

Meditations.

grant I may at least enjoy
such joy and comfort in
thee, that I may rest in thy
Kingdom, for ever and e-
ver. *Amen.*

*Our Father which art in
Heaven, &c.*



*A Prayer for Friday
Morning.*

35 **U**Nto thee, O
Lord, I come
with a broken & contrite
heart, sorrowing for my
sins, seeking to find com-
fort at thy hands: O thou
knowest my grief, my sor-
row, and care. O, I feel and
find thy Comforts, Lord,

E

I

Prayers and

I thank thee that thou hast kept me the night past, & that thou hast safely brought me to see the glittering light. O Lord fit me up that I may find some comfort, preserve & keep me, that I may feel some joy in my soul and body, this day and for ever: and as the Church observes this day a Fast, I prepare thou me, O Lord in Soul and Body, that may fast from all sin and wickedness, and be strong against the world, the flesh, and the devil, and temptations, that I fall not into sin or transgression: but grant that I may
spen

Meditations.

Spend this day, with all the days of my life, in all holy conversation, to thy glory, and good example of all Men: Grant this, O Father, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.



A Prayer for Friday Night.

46 **M**erciful LORD
G O D, which
hast let me pass this day
in health and prosperity, I
intreat thee grant that
this Night I may take my
rest in quietness & peace;

E 2

and

Prayers and

and although thou hast now taken away the daylight, yet I intreat thee not to take away the spiritual light of thy Grace: infuse into me (O Lord) the Spirit of Comfort: and although our Sleep be as Death, and the Bed as the Grave, yet suffer us not to perish suddenly or unprepared: but watch over us, good Father, and guide and guard us now and for evermore. Let not affrightments fall upon us, keep us from Fire, Storms, Tempests, Thieves, sudden death and danger: and be unto us now and for ever, a gracious Protector, a Defender,
and

Meditations.

and Director. Let thy good Angels, O Lord, pitch their Tents about us, and our Houses: Remember thy Church, and every member thereof, to preserve and keep it, especially the poor Protestants afflicted for the Truth in *Germany, France, and Spain*, and elsewhere; all that are persecuted for the Gospel; all in tribulation, or temptation, or misery: Put an end and period to their griefs, and send comfort unto them; and, LORD, receive them and us, this night and every in- to thy gracious protection, through the Mediation of

Prayers and

Christ Jesus: in whose
Name we conclude, say-
ing, *Our Father which*
art, &c.



A Trance or Soliloquy at
Midnight.

37 **M**erciful Lord, let
me not die before
I live. My eyes have taken
pleasure in folly, my heart
in sin, now I am sorry for
it; I esteem my self un-
worthy to call thee Fa-
ther; yet Lord vouchsafe
to account me still as thy
Child, that sleeping or wa-
king I may be always
thine, now and ever. *A-*
men. *A*

Meditations.

A Prayer for Saturday Morning.

38 **S**anctific (O LORD)
this day unto us, and
to all about us. Hear us,
dear Father, and grant our
requests now and for ever.
O LORD, we give thee
thanks that thou hast kept
us this Night, and to this
present, and brought us to
the last day of this Week :
Grant we may spend this
day soberly, quietly,
and religiously from our
hearts : Bring us to thy
righteous Will in all things
that it may be for thy Glo-
ry, and our joy and com.

Prayers and

fort. Root out all unjust, covetous, malicious, and lustful thoughts out of our minds. Keep us, O Lord, from all wickedness, and from all sin, and be a Guide unto us in all our ways, and a strength in all our necessary occasions; and as thou hast brought us to this last day of the week, so we intreat thee to bring an end of sin unto us, and cloath us with the Riches of thy Righteousness. O God, we intreat thee to grant this for our blessed Mediators sake, Christ Jesus our Lord, *Amen.*

Meditations.



*A Prayer for Saturday
Night.*

39 **M**erciful and Hea-
venly Father, look
upon me wretched Sinner,
in mercy, before I come to
give account for all my
sins committed this Week,
this day, and all my life
past. I have justly deserved
Hell, Death, and Damna-
tion every way, every
day, and every hour this
Week, and all my life past.
Yet like a merciful GOD,
thou hast defended me, O
LORD. As this Week is
now at an end, so let my
sins end, and call me no re

Prayers and

to an exact account (*here
make confession of all thy sins
with sorrow, which thou hast
committed the whole week
past*) O Lord I confess all, I
yield my self worthy of
Death, yet Lord spare
me, spare me, have
mercy upon me, par-
don me, and grant that I
may have this Night quiet
rest, that I may be the bet-
ter able to serve thee to-
morrow. Be this Night my
defence, my guide, my
strong Hold, my Fortrefs,
and sole Comfort. And
grant that I may with a
quiet Conscience lie down
to take my rest in peace
and quietness; let thy
good

Meditations.

good Angels attend on me;
sleeping or waking, let no
affrightments trouble me,
but in the midst of dark-
ness enlighten me with
thy glory; and pardon,
and forget, and forgive all
my sins past. Grant this
now and for ever, I be-
seech thee, in that Prayer
which thy Son hath
taught me, saying,

*Our Father which art in
Heaven, &c.*



*A Prayer before a
Sermon,*

4^o **O**. Grant, most graci-
ous Father, that
our thoughts may not be
car-

Prayers and

carried away with any vain illusions, or bad imaginations; grant that we be not overcome with sleep or drowsiness, but quicken (O LORD) we beseech thee, our Senses; open, we intreat thee, our Ears; apply our hearts to hear, and understand, and follow thy heavenly Word. Grant this good Father, for thy only Son's sake, Christ Jesus our Saviour. *Amen.*

*A Prayer to be said after
Sermon.*

41 **L**ord God, we intreat thee that the Word which

Meditations.

which we have heard preached at this time to us, be deeply settled in our hearts: that we by it may so learn to live, that we may please thee, and daily endeavour to fulfil thy will, and spend the rest of our lives in thy true service, and obedience of thee in all things, to the honour of thy Glory, and our Souls true Comfort, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be said before the receiving of the Communion.

42 **O** Father of Mercy,
and **G O D** of all
Consolation, seeing all
crea-

Prayers and

creatures do acknowledge
& confess thee to be their
Governour and Lord ; it
becometh us, the work-
manship of thy own hands,
much more to reverence
and magnifie thy great
Majesty, for that thou hast
created us to thy own I-
mage, and Similitude ; but
chiefly in that thou hast de-
livered us from that ever-
lasting death and damna-
tion, to which Satan subje-
cted all mankind by the
reason of sin, from the bon-
dage whereof, neither Men
nor Angels were able to
set us free. But thou, O
Lord, rich in mercy, & in-
finite goodness, hast pro-
vided

Meditations.

vided our Redemption to consist in thine only and well-beloved Son, whom of very love thou didst give to be made Man like unto us in all things (sin only excepted) that in his body he might receive the punishment of our Transgressions by his death, to make satisfaction to thy justice, by his stripes & wounds, that we that were the Sinners indeed, should be healed and free, & by his humiliation that we might be glorified & exalted, and that by his Resurrection, Death and Hell should be vanquished, to bring us to life everlasting, and joys eternal, from
which

Prayers and

which the whole off-spring
of *Adam* was justly exiled,
O Lord, we acknowledge
that no creature is able to
comprehend the length,
breadth, deepness, and
height of that most excel-
lent Love. For, thou didst
shew thy mercy, when
none was deserved; thou
gavest Life, when Death
had got the Victory; thou
received'st us into Grace,
when we rebelled against
thy Majesty; and when we
were all spotted & defiled
with the filth of unrighte-
ousness, thou didst cleanse
and purifie us with the
blood of Jesus Christ; and
although through the per-
verse

Meditations.

verse blindness and dulness
of our corrupt nature, we
neither do nor can suffici-
ently weigh or consider
these thy most ample be-
nefits, yet nevertheless (as
Jesus Christ our Lord hath
Instituted & Commanded)
we present our selves to
this thy Table; to manifest
and witness to the whole
World, that by him alone
we have received liberty
and life, that by him alone
thou dost acknowledge us
to be thy Children and
Heirs; that by him alone
we have entrance to the
Throne of Grace; that by
him alone we are admit-
ted to sit at thy Heavenly
Table

Prayers and

Table, and also receive spiritual strength both to do good, and to avoid all evil; that by him alone our Souls shall be raised from sin, and our Bodies from death; and by him alone we receive both grace and mercy here, and assurance of Glory for ever. Wherefore to him alone, with thee, O most gracious and loving Father, and the blessed Spirit, one truly glorious God, be all Praise and Thanks, now and ever. *Amen.*

Meditations.



*A Prayer and Thanksgiving
after the receiving of the
holy Communion.*

43 **M**OST merciful
Father, we ren-
der unto thee all Thanks,
Praise, Honour and Glory,
for that it hath pleased
thee of thy great mercy to
grant unto us miserable
Sinners so excellent bene-
fits and priviledges, as to
be received into the fel-
lowship and company of
thy dear Son Jesus Christ
our Lord; yea, by his
means we are thy adopted
Children, and he is made
our elder Brother. Yea,
O

Prayers and

O LORD, we come nearer than so: He is our Head, and we are the Members of that Mystical Body. And all this proceeds from thy gracious goodness, and compassion. For thou hast delivered him to death to give us life: Thou hast made him a Sacrifice for the necessary food & nourishment of our souls; thou gavest way to the piercing of his Sides, from whence issued water and blood, that we might know how we came cleansed from our sins, & redeemed from Damnation. Yea (O LORD GOD) thou hast presented us in this Sacrament

Meditations.

ment the whole Tragedy of his Passion, that we out of his Sorrows might recover Joys, out of his Groans might be comforted; out of his Sighs and Tears might have ours put into his Bottle; and out of his Death, be presented to life everlasting: we beseech thee then, O heavenly Father, to grant us this request, that thou never suffer us to become so unkind as to forget such worthy benefits, but rather make a sure impression of them in our hearts for ever, and let the vertue and strength of his Spirit ever be found in us, by which we may be
con-

Prayers and

confirmed and established
so, that we may not only
prevail against all our spi-
ritual Enemies, but conti-
nue also in confessing of
thy goodness, and refor-
mation of our Lives, and
performance of all good
duties, to the glory of thy
Name, through the same
Christ Jesus our Lord; to
whom with thee, O Fa-
ther, and thy holy Spirit,
be all Glory and Praise,
now and ever. *Amen.*

Meditations.

A Prayer to be said before Catechising.

44 **W**E most heartily
thank thee, most
merciful Father, for all thy
Blessings bestowed upon
us, from the beginning
of the World unto this
present time; for our Ele-
ction, Creation, Redem-
ption, merciful Vocation,
Justification, Sanctificati-
on, continual preservation,
and for that same assured,
& most comfortable Hope
that thou hast given us
of our Glorification in
the World to come. And
we beseech thee to direct
us

Prayers and

us, that considering thy mercies we may acknowledge and confess our sins, which should provoke thee rather to curse than to bless us, to confound us rather than to preserve us. We have sinned against thee both in thought, in word & deed: Grant that we seeing the horror of our sins, and the fierceness of thy wrath, may without hypocrisie or dissimulation be earnestly sorry & heartily repent for our former wickedness; howbeit in such sort, as that we despair not, but that in bitterness of our grief we may have comfort, by Faith
in

Meditations.

in thy Son Christ, that
our offences are pardon-
ed. Grant (O Lord that
we being assured hereof in
our Consciences, may
through the holy Spirit, be
renewed in the inner-
man, to hate, detest, and
abhor sin, and to study to
live according to thy blef-
sed Will, during our whole
life. And as now, through
thy goodness, we are here
assembled together, so we
beseech thee to direct us,
that at this present, both
our words, hearts, and all
our behaviours may be in
such sort ordered, as that
we may truly utter, and
reverently receive the
F Prin.

Prayers and

Principles of thy holy and heavenly Word, to the strengthening of our Faith, to the comfort of our Consciences, to the amendment of our sinful and lewd lives, and to the glory of thy most holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *So be it.*

*A Prayer to be used after
Catechizing.*

45 **W**E heartily thank thee, O most merciful Father, for that thou hast bestowed the inestimable treasure of thy Holy and Heavenly Word upon us most vile and sinful
ful

Meditations.

ful wretches. And seeing it is not in him that planteth, nor in him that watereth, but in thy merciful hand to mortifie our sinful lusts, and to create new hearts in us; we beseech thee so to order and direct us, that we prove not like the green Fig-tree, flourishing without fruit, or be of the number of those Hypocrites: which with tongue can say Lord, Lord, in thy Name we Prophecie, cast out Devils, and do many great works, and yet are condemned for wicked, because their hearts are not aright, not like to them which are

Prayers and

swept and garnished but yet empty, whereinto the unclean Spirit returns with seven worse than himself, and so our end be worse than our beginning; but govern us with thy Holy Spirit, that in heart we may love and seek thee, & in body and soul obey and serve thee, in righteousness and true holiness all the days of our life, through Jesus Christ our Lord..

As we pray for our selves so we beseech thee, to look with favour upon the whole Church, increase the number of thy Children, grant thy Gospel a free
pas-

Meditations.

passage, comfort the comfortless, raise up them that are fallen, and strengthen them that stand, that they fall not: Have mercy upon this Realm, long continue thy blessing of peace and quietness towards us, and remove far from us all lets & hindrances of the same. Govern the Hearts and the Swords of all Magistrates, that they may not lift up themselves in vain glory, to please themselves, but that they may apply the authority which thou hast given them, to the advancement of thy Glory, for the comfort of thy Children, and the terror

Prayers and

of thine Enemies. And seeing the continuance of our peace in these days, next under thee, lieth in the preservation of our most gracious King; bless us with him, and bless him with all gifts fit for so high a calling: and whosoever shall attempt, devise or conspire ought against His Majesties Person, Crown, Dignity, and Royal Estate, we beseech thee in mercy either to convert them speedily, or in judgment to confound them, that we may under him lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty: Counsel the Counsellors,
order

Meditations.

order the Nobles, direct the Magistrates, instruct the Ministers, guide and govern the whole body of this Common-wealth, that we may joyn together in humbleness of heart, and unity of mind, to seek the glory of thy Name, the increase of thy Kingdom, the establishing of thy Truth, the rooting out of sin, the maintenance of Virtue, & the long continuance of the prosperous estate of this Common-wealth. Have mercy upon them that be in affliction in body or in mind, especially such as suffer for the testimony of a good conscience; as-

Prayers and

swage their sorrows, mitigate their miseries speedily, if it be thy will, or else arm them with patience, to abide such trial, as thou shalt lay upon them. Grant these things for thy Son's sake, Jesus Christ our Saviour, in whose Name we pray for the same, and all other Graces, which thou knowest needful, either for us or the whole Church, in the same Prayer which he himself hath taught us in his holy Word, saying,

Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.

A

Meditations.



*A most effectual Prayer
against the Plague in the
time of Danger.*

36 **O** Lord God, great
JEHOVAH, thou
merciful Creator of Man,
and founder of Heaven &
Earth, we wretched mise-
rable and dejected sinners
here present our selves be-
fore thy Heavenly Throne,
intreating thee to look
down upon us, poor distressed
offenders. We confess we
are unworthy of the name
of thy Children, we have
despised thy Love, and for-
F 5 saken

Prayers and

faken thy ways, made
flight of thy Words, and re-
fused thy Chastisements,
without thinking what we
deserve: we have not fea-
red thy Judgments, nor
dreaded thy threatnings,
we have not sought thy
favour, nor listened after
thy mercies; we have win-
ked at our small sins; and
smothered our great sins,
we have promised amend-
ment, but still continue ob-
stinate: our thoughts are
wicked, our deeds damna-
ble, our lives impious, our
sayings deceitful, our
hearts hollow, our deal-
ings double, we run from
sin to sin, as though there
were

Meditations.

were no Hell to swallow us, no Devils to Torment us, no Judge to terrifie us; we fear not Hell, nor look after Heaven; we have drawn down thy judgments upon us, thou hast justly sent the plague of Pestilence upon us, and we deserve to be swept away from the face of the Earth. Our sins are manifold, our transgressions without number, that have even sought for vengeance, and now according to our deserts, thou hast sent the destroying Angel to mark us out for death. The Grave seeks to devour us, the Bells toll for us, death and time

Prayers and

time are agreed to carry us away, Heaven calls for us, & Hell is prepared, our days are ended, our Glass is run, our Time is spent, & we cannot return, but forward we must go. If we look back, the World refuseth us; if forward, the Devils desire us, only in thy merciful help there is hope, & on thee we depend for help. O help us, good God; O spare us, sweet Saviour, and as thou didst spare in the time of King *David*, and chargedst the destroying Angel to cease, so we beseech thee now to spare thy people, cease thy anger, take, we intreat thee, this

Meditations.

this Plague of Pestilence from us withhold back thy wtath, and as thou sparedst the repenting *Ninivites*, so make us repent, and spare this Land. O Lord, help us unfeignedly to bewail our former life past, and seek effectual amendment for a better Life hereafter, to which better Life presently bring us; Lord, we beseech thee, and therein hold us for ever by the power of thy Grace in Jesus Christ: To whom with thee, O Father, and the blessed Spirit, be Glory by us for all thy mercies on us, now and ever. *Amen.*

Prayers and



A Prayer for remission of sins.

47 **O** LORD, glorious,
everlasting, loving,
everlasting Father, I wret-
ched Sinner presume once
again after my sin to return
home unto thee, request-
ing, begging, praying and
desiring of thy Heavenly
Majesty, that thou wilt
look down upon me. I con-
fess, were it not for the
hope of thy mercy, and the
hold of thy comfort, and
the renewing graces which
sometimes I feel from thee,
and that sweet tast and
feel-

Meditations.

feeling of thy good gifts, & thy heavenly word, I should sink in despair; for my sins are always before me, if I go they follow me, if I run they fly after me, if I look back, they stare upon me; if I go forward, they meet me; if I run to the right hand, they terrifie me; if to the left hand, they torment me; if I look down to the Earth, Hell is ready to devour me. Now have I no way but to look up to thee; Lord, be thou then there ready to receive me; help me good God, save me dear Father, succour me sweet Redeemer, assist me merciful Creator,
that

Prayers and

that my Prayers may be so fervent, so zealous, so affectionate towards thee, that they may draw down thy mercies upon me; pour down thy blessings, shower down thy graces, open thy hand of mercy, restore joy and comfort to my heavy and laden Soul; wash away all my sins, wipe away mine iniquities, heal mine infirmities, purge my wicked Mind of all ill thoughts, pardon all my damnable deeds and detestable dealings; renew the good Spirit of heavenly Grace, restore the joys of thy holy comforts upon me, O Lord, let me have some feeling,
some

Meditations.

some taste, some scent, some
glimmering of thy glorious
Presence. Let me feel
some comfort, find some
joy, have some rest. Good
Lord, let me be once truly
renewed by thy Grace, &
settled in thy service, that I
never slip nor slide back;
but grant unto me (most
merciful Father) a sure &
settled dependance upon
thee, so that in all my
words, works and deeds, I
may rejoyce in serving,
fearing & obeying thee, &
that I may spend all the re-
sidue of my days, truly ser-
ving thee, seeking to glori-
fiethy name, & magnifiethy
goodness unto me, so long
as

Prayers and

as it shall please thee to
lend me breath in this frail
body ; & merciful Father,
favourably govern & guide,
Help, Instruct and Teach
me in thy wisdom to mag-
nifie thy Name ; multiply
and increase thy mercies
on me. O Lord, preserve
and prosper me in all my
ways and works, and all
about me. Remember thy
poor Flock, build up thy
Church, renew *S I O N*,
govern, assist, and bless all
painful Preachers and Pa-
stors of thy Word ; teach
them & us understanding,
rightly to know thee, and
truly to follow thee : awake
my drowfie Soul, defend
it

Meditations.

it from evil imaginations ;
keep me in holy and hea-
venly Meditations ; grant
me to observe my ways,
so that I may walk in Pie-
ty and Peace ; set my sins
so before mine Eyes, that
when I look back on them,
I may with sorrow weep,
lament and repent my
time past, which hath been
spent so wickedly or un-
profitably. O Powerful
Preserver, remember me,
restore me to joy & com-
fort, and hasten in timethy
Salvation unto me. Draw
my lingring Soul, and it
shall run after thee, turn
me unto thee with all wil-
lingness, come thou near
unto

Prayers and

unto me (good Lord) and declare and shew thy mercies on me; establish me in Grace, excite me to goodness; give me Grace that I may always grow stronger and stronger to walk before thee, weaker and weaker to sin, faithful and firm in thy service: Grant this (dear God) and merciful Father, for Christs sake our Saviour. *Amen.*

A Prayer for God's Graces.

48 **O** Merciful G O D,
grant me to covet
with an ardent desire, those
things

Meditations.

things which may please thee, to read the Scriptures diligently, to search them wisely, to know them truly, to understand them rightly, to fulfil them perfectly, to the Laud, Glory and Praise of thy Name, and my own Souls true comfort. Order my living so, that I may do that which thou requirest of me; and give me grace that I may know it, and have will & power to do it, and that I may obtain those things which be most convenient for the Salvation of my Soul. Good Lord, make my ways sure and straight to thee, so that I
fall

Prayers and

fall not between prosperity
and adversity ; but that in
prosperous things I may
give thee thanks, and in
adversity be patient, so
that I be not lift up with
the one, nor oppress'd with
the other ; and that I may
rejoyce in nothing but that
which moveth me to thee,
nor be sorry for any thing
but that which draweth
me from thee ; desiring to
please none, but for thee,
nor fear to displease any
besides thee. Lord let all
worldly things be alike un-
to me in respect of thee :
Let me not be merry with
the joy which is without
thee, and let me desire no-
thing

Meditations.

thing in comparifon of thee,
let me grow weary of all
which is not in thee, make
me to lift my heart of-
tentimes unto thee, and
when I am ready to fall, do
thou fuftain and uphold
me, and grant me with a
ftedfaft purpofe of amend-
ment to feek grace of thee.
O my God, make me hum-
ble without fainting, mer-
ry without lightnefs, fad
without dulnefs, true with-
out doublenefs, ferving
thee without defperation,
trufting in thee without
prefumption, telling my
Neighbours their Faults
without difsimulation, tea-
ching them not with words
only

Prayers and

only, or admonition, but much more by my example. Let me be obedient without revenging, patient without grudging. Purge me (O Lord) from all my corruptions. My most loving Lord God, give me, I pray thee, a waking heart; let no evil thoughts withdraw me from thee, let it be so strong that no worldly affections draw it backward, so stable that no tribulation break it, so free, that no violence make any challenge unto it. O my Lord God, grant me wisdom to know thee, conversation to please thee, & finally, hope to embrace thee

Meditations.

thee. Grant this most merciful Father, for the precious blood of that immaculate Lamb, Christ Jesus, our only Lord and Saviour : to whom with thee, and the Holy Ghost, three Persons and one God, be all Glory and Honour, World without end.
Amen.

Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.



*A Prayer for a quiet
Conscience.*

49 **M**OST merciful,
most loving, and
dear Father, I poor dis-
G distressed

Prayers and

distressed sinner, being distressed in Mind, troubled in Conscience with distraction and vanity of the World, and oppressed in heart with the burden of my sins, come unto thee with a wounded and dejected Soul, intreating thee of thy clemency, to ease me of my troubles, to cease my grief, and comfort my heaviness, gather together my distressed thoughts, and heal my broken heart; for I acknowledge, that I am justly afflicted, so justly that I am even ready to despair of all comforts, but yet my hope is in thy goodness

Meditations.

(O God) come now, I cry and call, hearken unto my suit, and hear me, so that I may find comfort and peace, and quietness in my mind. Grant this dear Jesus, who hast bid us to come to thee when we are heavy laden, and promised to ease us, and commanded us to cast our care on thee, and promised to help us, even so, Lord Jesus, come quickly. *Amen.*

A Prayer against wicked and carnal Thoughts.

50 **O** Great, good, glorious, and everlasting Father, I poor dejected

G 2 cted

Prayers and

sted wretch, full of filth
and sin, not having one
good thought in me, come
at this time, seeking to
leave my filthy, detestable
Life, desiring thee to grant
my requests, fulfil my de-
sires, and hearken to my
Prayers and Petitions: I
confess continually, that I
sin in thought, word and
deed, and there is no good
remaineth in me: When
I think to be fervent in
Prayer, the Devil, the
World and Flesh, assault
me: I cannot do as I would,
I do that which I would
not; Sin follows me, shame
is like to overtake me,
confusion is like to lay
hold

Meditations.

hold upon me; destruction
that tends me, and horror
and fear affrights me: I
have no where to flie but
to thee; help good God,
save me merciful Father,
defend me sweet Creator,
a poor wretched Creature,
pull me from my sins, save
and succour me, pardon
and forgive me, wash me,
make me cleān, give me
spiritual Thoughts, and
renew all good purposes
in me, help me to abandon
all foolish, vain, and lustful
thoughts of the flesh; to
avoid, resist, and shake off
all malicious, reproachful,
and froward Thoughts,
that proceed from the
G 3 Devil,

Prayers and

- Devil, or Worldly occasion, so that I may live purely, think chastly, continue soberly in thy service, always fearing to displease so loving a Father as thee, regarding my ways and works, giving good examples to all that live about me, desiring and seeking for nothing, but thee, and thy saving health. Grant this, good Father, both now and ever, for Christ Jesus his sake. *Amen.*



An humble confession of sins.

S**I****O** LORD GOD,
heavenly Father, I
am

Meditations.

am ashamed to come before thee, and thy glorious throne ; I am so sinful, yet hear me, good God, and grant my request. By my rebellious nature I have offended ; I confess my self unworthy of the name of thy Child : I have despised thy Love, forsaken thy ways, made slight of thy Words, scorned thy Chastisements , which thou hast laid upon me, without thinking what I do deserve : I have not felt the affliction of my Brethren : I have not mourned with them ; I fear not thy Judgment , nor dread thy threatening : What shall I

Prayers and

say? I regard not thy mercies; Curses, and Punishments have I deserved, having so vilely, so wilfully, and so obstinately despised thy Favours, I run after sin as Swine after filth; I delight in evil: I apply myself to ungodliness, I tread the steps of the prophane and wicked, I incline to Lying, Deceit and Cozenage, Lust, Perjury, and all Wickedness, I go slily away with my Transgressions, I wink at great sins, and I make small sins no sins at all, I promised amendment, but still continue obstinate, I am prone and apt to all badness, dull
and

Meditations.

and heavy to all goodnesse,
my thoughts are wicked,
my deeds damnable, my
Life impious, my Sayings
deceitful, my Heart hol-
low; I say one thing and
do another, I run from sin
to sin; from drunkenness to
lust, from lust to great sins,
from one bad deed to ano-
ther, from one ill thought
to another: I am stained
with Pollution, stult with
Covetousness, desirous of
the World, ambitious of
Honour, I never look back
how wicked I have been,
but continue as though
there were no Hell to swal-
low me, no Devils to tor-
ment me, no Conscience to

Prayers and

accuse me, no Judgment to
terrifie me, I regard not
Hell, nor look after Hea-
ven, I become loathsome
unto thee; yet most glori-
ous LORD GOD, once a-
gain look back, I beseech
thee, behold and pity me,
poor condemned Wretch,
deal me a pardon. Help, O
help me, dear Father, open
the Fountain of thy Mer-
cies, let down the shower
of thy Grace upon me. Let
tears distil from my eyes,
Sighs and Sobs rise from
my heart; let sorrow kill
my sins, & grant unto me
speedy courses of amend-
ment of life, and a stedfast
and sure confidence in thy
mer-

Meditations.

mercy to pardon all my
sins, & thy Grace to purge
me from all my uncleanness
and wickedness, by
Jesus Christ my Lord and
Saviour. *Amen.*

*A Prayer to be said of all
that are fallen into Poverty.*

52 **O** Merciful, ever-living
and loving
Father, I intreat thee, upon
the bended knees of my
Soul, to hearken unto my
grievous complaints: grant
(O Lord God) that I may
be enabled to go through
all the afflictions thou hast
pleased to lay upon me, &
that

Prayers and

that at all times I may call to mind, that it is not me only, but many of thy dear Servants, with whom thou dealest in like sort. Grant I may bear my Poverty with Patience, as *Job* did, that all my times I may remember I came naked into the World; and brought nothing with me, and that which I have had, came from thee. Grant, merciful Father, that in all extremities, I may never despair of thy mercy, but that by it, I may be more inclined to call & seek for thy spiritual comforts & heavenly blessing. And though I want worldly Wealth, yet grant
me

Meditations.

me thy heavenly graces, so shall I not want; and grant that the afflictions of this life may be sanctified unto me, and turn to my eternal good, thro' Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

A Prayer in Prosperity.

53 **I** Wretched sinner appear here before thee merciful Father, intreating thee of thy great bounty, that at all times thou hast given me a more liberal portion of worldly wealth, so thou wilt please to grant me Grace ever to be thankful to thee for the same

Prayers and

same; and grant I may so use it, that it may be for thy Glory, my Salvation, & the comfort of the needy. Grant I may not be hard hearted, but liberally give and bestow it upon the oppressed and fatherless; on the blind, the lame, & the naked; to comfort & succour all that are in distress; to further thy word, and plantation of thy Gospel. O grant (most merciful Father) that the more earthly blessings that thou givest me, I may the more seek thy heavenly Graces, & that I may be the more humbled in due consideration of my great unthankfulness

Meditations.

fulness; and that I may seek to live more piously and religiously; and that when I depart this vale of misery, I may be mindful to leave some Good and Godly examples of Charity to those that follow. Grant that this my wealth may not be a stumbling-block or hinderance to my Salvation, but that it may be a furtherance to me in all good and godly actions. Grant this, good God, even for Christ Jesus sake, I intreat thee; to whom with thee and thy Holy Spirit, be praise and glory now and ever. *Amen.*

Prayers and

*A Prayer for all in distress at
Sea, by Storm or Tempest.*

54 **O** Lord God, Heavenly Father, maker and founder of the Sea and Land, look down upon us miserable Sinners, who have justly plucked down thy vengeance upon us: O Lord we have provoked thy Wrath, we have deserved to be swallowed up quick by the merciless Waters? O Father, the floods come over us, they even enter into our Soul, O Lord, the Seas rage & rise against us: Here we see thy Wonders and Judgments, in the twink-

Meditations.

twinkling of an Eye thou
canst destroy us. O Lord, we
confess and acknowledge
we have sinned. Most justly
therefore are thy fierce
Judgments come upon us :
Yet (Lord) spare us (Lord)
we beseech thee; let us not
be swallowed up quick,
where there is none to help
us, but thou canst save us. O
Lord, cease these storms &
tempests; cease, we beseech
thee, these swelling Seas ;
command these blustering
winds and they shall obey.
We are at the pit of De-
struction, at the brink and
brim; *Save us, Master we pe-
rish, Lord increase our faith,*
strengthen it in thee: Mer-
ciful

Prayers and

ciful Father; take us, we beseech thee, into thy protection: be, O Lord, our shelter; and, if thou hast appointed death unto us at this present (O Lord) be thou present, we beseech thee, to receive our Souls, until the joyful Resurrection of our Bodies, and then receive our Bodies and Souls into thy Kingdom. If it be life, then grant we may so live, that we may take warning by these afflictions now upon us, that we may live to amend our lives, and live more godly, religiously and righteously all the days of our lives. Grant this good God,
and

Meditations.

and merciful Father, for
Jesus Christ his sake, our
only Saviour. *Amen.*



*A Prayer for one that Tra-
vels by Land.*

55 **O** Lord, lead me in
the paths of righte-
ousness, and direct my go-
ings in the way of truth.
We (O Lord) are born to
Travel, and Man hath no
certain place of abode; our
days are like a span, and
our lives pass as a weavers
shuttle. O what is man that
thou art mindful of him,
or

Prayers and

or the Son of Man, that thou regardest him? We are like to a bubble, or a blast, we go hence and are seen no more. O teach us to number our days, that we may walk in the paths of godliness; direct our steps in the word of Truth; and as thou hast appointed Man to be a Pilgrim, & to travel for his living, & sojourn upon the earth, so, O Lord, guide & govern me in my travel, that I may go on with Comfort in this my Journey. Be thou my God, my help, and guide to direct me aright in my way and business; keep me from all fears and dangers
by

Meditations.

by Thieves, or other mischief and trouble; that I may have no disturbance in my Journey, no lets nor hindrances, no sorrow nor heaviness, but for my sins; and, O Lord, keep and bless all my Friends at home & abroad, and keep them and me in perfect health, till my return unto them. Thou (O Lord) knowest the sorrows of my heart, and I cannot express my griefs so well as thou knowest them; Then (O Lord) let me ever feel and find accordingly thy Comfort; do thou put good Thoughts and godly Cogitations always in my Mind, that I
may

Prayers and

may so think upon Heavenly things, as one that hath set and settled his affections and desires to come unto that place. Gracious Lord, make all my Thoughts, Words, and Works, well pleasing unto thee: And now let thy good Angels conduct and lead me, that they may be as a Cloud by day, and as a Pillar by night, to watch and attend upon me, to keep me, that I fall not, nor go away. And for my chief Companion, grant that I may ever have a quiet Conscience, and a willing mind to serve, fear, and obey thee, and a con-
trite

Meditations.

trite and sorrowful Soul
for sin; and so direct me
in the ways of Truth, that
I may not stray, or go a-
way by any by-paths of
ungodliness, but conduct
me in the stedfast ways of
uprightness, wherein give
me strength and grace to
strive to perform in all
things thy most righteous
Will, and to submit my self
unto thee, through Jesus
Christ our only Lord and
Saviour. *Amen.*

Prayers and



A Prayer for a sick Man.

56 **O** Lord, glorious, loving Lord God, I beseech thee to hear my Complaint, and grant me strength to pour out my Prayer before thee; O God I have sinned, I have sinned, and done wickedly; I have all my life long run from sin to sin; I have transgressed; I have done so bad, that I cannot call to remembrance. Yet merciful Saviour, return unto me, that I may have a feeling of that good Spirit in me: Let not the sin of my youth

Meditations.

youth, nor the iniquity of
that time lie upon me;
and O GOD, as thou hast
laid thy hand of Affliction
upon me, so I do intreat
thee to arm me with pa-
tience to bear this my Visi-
tation patiently. If it be
thy will to take me out of
this transitory Life, pre-
pare me so O good God, &
fit me, that I may be recei-
ved into thy Kingdom.
Arm me, and strengthen
me to bear the burthen
hereof patiently, to under-
go this my affliction wil-
lingly, and to fight it out
manfully. But unless thou
help, what am I, O God?
A Worm, a poor dejected

H

Worm.

Prayers and

Wretch. I have no comfort but from thee, and of thee; therefore I do fly unto thee, beseeching thee either to restore me to health, and withal to amendment of Life, or else to receive me & to take me into thy Kingdom of Glory. Lord, cease my pain, ease my grief. LORD, I intreat thee to grant, that neither the Devil nor the World, may any way prevail to attempt me, but grant me strength to overcome all. Send the good Angels to keep & conduct me, both in sickness, and in health, & grant I may not fear Death, but that I may be

Meditations.

be fitted and prepared for it, yet, if it be thy gracious Will ; Let me recover a little strength, and spare me a little before I go hence, and am no more seen. O grant that I may find thy Grace now work for my good in me ; that if it be thy Will to take me hence, Lord receive me unto thee, and then come Lord Jesus, come quickly. And so Lord I commit and commend my self unto thee, in that Prayer which thou hast taught me, saying,
Our Father which art, &c.
Lord strengthen my Faith
to the end.

I believe in God, &c.

Prayers and

*A Prayer for a Woman in
the time of her Travel.*

57 **R**ighteous and holy
Lord God, I do
now find by experience,
the fruit of my sin, that I
must travel in sorrow, and
bring forth in Pain, and I
unfeignedly adore the
truth of thy sacred Word,
as certifying unto me, that
sorrow must be in the E-
vening, so comforting me
also against the Morning,
that a Child shall be born;
willingly I do desire to
submit my self, in hope,
unto this thy Chastise-
ment, and to learn the de-
sert

Meditations.

sert of my sins, horrible in themselves, that these temporal pains are fore-runners of eternal; and yet by thy Mercy may be so sanctified unto me, as not only to prevent eternal Vengeance, but also prepare for eternal Comforts, even to be saved by bearing of Children. Grant me therefore, gracious Father, true repentance and pardon for my sins past, that they may not stand at this time, in this my need, between me and thy Mercy. Give me a comfortable feeling of thy love in Christ, which may sweeten all other pangs.

Prayers and

though never so violent or extreme. Make me still to lift up my Soul unto thee in my greatest Agonies ; knowing that thou alone must give a blessing to the ordinary means for my safe deliverance. Lay no more upon me than I am able to endure, and strengthen my weak body to the bearing of what sorrow soever, by Which it shall seem good unto thee to make trial of me. Grant me to consider, that howsoever it be with me, yet I am always in thine hand, whose mercies fail not; who will be found in the Mount, and in greatest extremity,

Meditations.

tremity, and to whom be the issues of death ; So prepare me therefore to death, that I may be fit for Life even to yield fruit alive unto the World, and to be renewed and enabled to nourish the same. And when thou hast safely given me the expected fruit of my Womb, make me with a thankful heart to consecrate both it and my self wholly to thy service all the days of my Life, through Jesus Christ mine only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Prayers and

A Thanksgiving after safe Deliverance.

58 **B**lessed for ever be
thy great and glo-
rious Name, (most dear
and loving Father) for thy
great mercy to me most
weak and sinful Woman;
wonderful art thou in all
thy Works, O LORD; the
riches of thy Mercies are
past finding out: thou hast
plunged me into great Af-
flictions, and yet thou hast
returned and refreshed me
again: Thou hast brought
me to the fear of the
Grave, and yet thou hast
raised me up again to Life.

O

Meditations.

O how hast thou shewed thy power in my weakness? How hath thy loving kindness prevailed against my unworthiness? Thou mightest for my sins, have left me to perish in mine extremities, but thou hast compassed me about with joyful deliverances. Thou mightest have made my Womb a Grave to bury the Dead; or in affording life to another, thou mightest have procured my Death: But yet thou hast not only made my Womb a Well spring of Life, but restored Life unto me also, for the cherishing thereof. Marvellous, O Lord, are

H S

thy

Prayers and

thy works; infinite are thy mercies, my Soul by present experience knoweth it well. O my Soul praise thou the Lord, and all that is within me, praise his holy Name. My Soul praise thou the Lord, and forget not all his benefits: thou hast heard my prayers, and looked upon my sorrow thou hast redeemed my life from death, and healed mine infirmities, and Crowned me with thy everlasting compassions. O give me, I humbly pray thee, a thankful Heart, not only now, while the memory and sense of thy favour is fresh before me, but continually, even so long as I have

Meditations.

have any being. Grant that I may learn by this lively evidence of thy Power and Mercy, for ever hereafter to depend only on thee: Quicken me also, to all holy Duties, that my thankfulness may appear in my Pure and Christian Carriage. Make me a kind and careful Mother, willing to undergo the pain and trouble of Education. Let no niceness or curiosity hinder me from those Services, to which both Nature and Religion have appointed me. Let me also be careful when time requireth, to season the Fruit thou hast given me, with

Prayers and

with the saving knowledge
of thee and thy dear Son;
that my desire may mani-
festly appear to be set for
the increase of thy King-
dom. Vouchsafe so to order
my afflictions, and to bring
me in obedience unto
thee, that if it should be thy
pleasure, either now or
hereafter, to take this In-
fant from me, I may as
willingly part with it, as
thou freely gavest it me.
And now, O God, perfect in
me that strength which
thou hast begun; make me
to grow in grace, to serve
thee faithfully, both in the
duties of Piety, & in other
business of my Place and
Cal-

Meditations.

Calling, that I may be a
comfort to my Husband,
an example to my Neigh-
bours, a grace to my Pro-
fession, and a means of glo-
ry to thy Name, through
Jesus Christ my Lord and
Saviour. *Amen.*



A Prayer at the hour of Death.

59 **O** Heavenly LORD
GOD, we poor
wretches being overcome
with grief, come all here,
attending thy good plea-
sure with this sick Servant
of thine: O Lord, incline
to

Prayers and

to hear our Prayers, and
his complaint unto thee.
But now, O Lord, present,
and send thy good Angels
and thy Spirit to attend
us; be with us (O Lord)
and comfort this sick Per-
son; and now, if the time
be come of his departure,
grant (O Lord) he may de-
part with godly comfort.
& joy everlasting, into thy
Kingdom. Ease (O Lord)
his griefs, mitigate his
pains, assuage his sorrows,
and give him a lively touch
of thy heavenly Com-
fort. Put by all worldly
thoughts, and beat down
all bad suggestions; let
nothing but good come
within

Meditations.

within his mind, and grant that he may to the last gasp of his breath, breath out still some comfort of thy help; and grant when he hath done his last to finish this mortal life, then he may with *Lazarus*, be carried into *Abraham's* bosom. O Lord forgive him. O Lord receive him. O Lord protect him. O Lord succour & save him; and now and for ever grant he may rest with thee in eternal Glory. Hear us (good Father) for this our Brother (or Sister) and do for him (or her) and us, according to thy Fatherly mercy in Jesus Christ, to whom we
com-

Prayers and
commend him, with these
our Prayers for him, and all
his and our occasions, in
that Prayer which thy blef-
sed Son hath taught us,
Our Father which art, &c.

A Trance at the time of
Death.

60 **O** Lord G O D, come
unto me, plant thy
Holy Angels about me, be
not far from me now; Lord
help, and take me into thy
protection: Let no ill Imagi-
nations, nor Wickedness take
hold upon me; but, O Lord,
now be ready to help me; re-
ceive me, and let thy good
Spirit

Meditations.

Spirit be in me; Come
Lord Jesus, come quickly,
come receive me, and take
me into thy Tuition. I for-
give all the World, grant
me likewise forgiveness of
them, and of thee Lord) for
all my sins: Wash me, O Lord,
and fully cleanse me of them
all, and receive me; O Lord
save me, O Lord be my Rock,
my Shield, my Defence, my
Comfort, my Receiver. Now
Lord I yield myself, my soul
and my body, into thy hands,
come Lord Christ, and be
with me now and for ever.
Come Lord Jesus, come quick-
ly and receive my Soul into
thy Protection. Amen.

Prayers and

A Prayer in time of War.

61 **O** Glorious LORD
G O D, and ever-
lasting Father, we intreat
thee mercifully to look
down upon us, and hearken
unto our Complaints and
Desires, and grant we be-
seech thee, our requests. O
Gracious Father, thou
knowest our sins, and our
iniquities are not hid from
thee, they lie open to thy
Judgment; yet we know
that thy mercies are the
cure of our miseries, and
when we fly to thee, thou
drawest near to us. We be-
seech

Meditations.

seech thee now to be favourable, and spare us for all our sins past, and be ready to deliver us from sins to come; look down in mercy upon us? and as thou hast been our everlasting defence, so now defend us from the rage of our Enemies: Go in and out (O Lord) before our Armies, before our General, before our Fleets and Commanders: And grant we may be thy Soldiers, to fight under thy Banner. Stir up our Hearts and Strength against the Enemy: Defend thy afflicted flock: Remember, we beseech thee, the burthen
of

Prayers and

of misery laid upon thy Church at this time, in *Germany, France, Ireland,* and elsewhere; and in thy due time restore it to her former Glory: Settle our Hearts and Affections to regain and recover that which hath been lost: And grant that we seeing their double dealing, may no longer trust to them which have no truth: They imagine mischief in their hearts; and are set on fire to do ill, but break thou the knot of their Malice, lay open their Plots, discover their Devices, weaken their Armies, overthrow their Intentions, confound
their

Meditations.

their counsels, & consume
their numbers. O LORD,
thou hast in time past
made the Stars to fight in
order, the Sun to standstill.
the Seas to devour, the
Winds to overthrow thy
enemies: So now, O Lord,
cause these thy Creatures
to assist & help us, and our
distressed Neighbours, that
all the World may know
it is thou that fightest our
Battles, and undertakest
our cause. Finally, O Lord,
bless, we beseech thee, us
& every one of us, in what
we shall take in hand for
defence of thy CHURCH
and TRUTH. Bless, we
intreat thee, our King, our
State,

Prayers and

State, our Clergy, our Commonality, & give thy blessing unto us all: And last of all bless, we beseech thee, all the worthy Company of Soldiers in the chief City, and in all places of this land. Bless, O Lord, we intreat thee, their inventions of War, and make them expert by their practices. Preserve and prosper all our undertaking, so that all the World may know that thou art the guider of our Counsels, and Leader of our Armies. Grant this, dear Father, and all other good things unto us, for the good of the Church amongst us, and

Meditations.

and the relief of others by us, now and always, for Christ Jesus sake our only Saviour. *Amen.*

A Form of Thanksgiving and Prayer, to be used of godly Christians in their Families.

60 **W**E most humbly thank thee, O heavenly Father, for all thy loving-kindness so abundantly shewed unto us; not only this day (or night) but all the time of our Life, unto this present; and especially for that it hath pleased thee
of

Prayers and

of thy fatherly favour, and infinite love, before we had done good or ill in thy sight, and before the beginning of the world, to write us in the Book of Life, and unchangeably to ordain that we should be thy Children and Vessels prepared to Honour, with the rest of the Saints. And we thank thee for the great Work of our Creation, which, as it is wonderful in it self, being first framed according to thine own Image, in Wisdom, Holiness and Immortality; so doth the excellency thereof much more clearly appear, in that thou hast made

Meditations.

made infinite numbers of other Creatures upon the earth, in the heavens above, and in the waters beneath, not only far inferior unto us, but to serve for our use and benefits: Yea, thou hast made thy holy Angels ministring spirits to attend, guard & defend thy Children. But most especially, we praise thy holy Name, & evermore thank thy Majesty, for the abasing, & manifesting of thine only begotten Son in our poor and frail Nature, that he might in the same, yield unto thee, O Father, a full and perfect obedience for us, such as in thy most just

Prayers and

Law was required at our hands: And that by his most painful and hellish sufferings, Anguishes and Horrors both in Soul and Body, as well in death as in Life, we might be made free from all those everlasting sorrows, fears & torments deserved of us, and prepared for all those that do not believe: Even so was it thy good pleasure, O Father most merciful, that he in the very substance of our Nature, through that Almighty power of thy God-head, should not only bear the intolerable weight of all our sins, together with all the

Meditations.

the punishment due to the same, but also overcome sin, destroy the power of sin in us, and obtain for us a glorious victory over Sin, the World, Death, Hell, and all Enemies. Yea, that he should restore unto us, by the virtue and worthiness of that his Obedience, all good things which before were lost through our folly and disobedience; and that in a more perfect Estate than ever we had been; in so much as now our strength, our wisdom, our righteousness, our worthiness, our assurance of thy favour, our joy & felicity, resteth not in our

I 2 selves

Prayers and

selves frail Creatures, but
in him our only & Almighty
Saviour, who sitteth at
thy right hand, in Glory &
Power for evermore: that
henceforth there shall be
no more Sacrifice for sin,
no other Mediator to in-
treat thy Majesty: no more
Deservers or Purchasers of
thy favours for us: but that
all flesh should confess,
that there is no other
Name under Heaven, by
which we may be saved,
but only the Lord Jesus.
And that whosoever rejoy-
ceth, might rejoyce in the
Cross of Christ. This Myste-
ry (O Lord) is too high for
us, we cannot comprehend
the

Meditations.

the fulness, the length, the breadth, and the deepness thereof perfectly; Yea, all the Wisdom of Man is too gross and blind to perceive any part thereof perfectly; the very Angels do always wonder at the same, and the Devil and Antichrist, with all the Princes of the World, have laboured utterly to extinguish the knowledge and memory of the same. Yet now in these days, thou hast again clearly revealed the same by the preaching of the Word, & we here present, through the abundance of thy Grace, in some sore forced

Prayers and

to see and feel the glorious power of the same.

But such is our horrible blindness, perverseness, vanity and unthankfulness, that we see it not clearly, we believe it not perfectly, nor weigh it sufficiently; nor meditate thereon effectually; for we should love thy Majesty, for this famous work of our Redemption by Jesus Christ, with a most perfect Love, without all comparison, & far above all other things in the World. Whatsoever we love, we should love for thy sake, so that nothing should be more dear and joyful unto us, than
the

Meditations.

the setting forth of thy
Glory, the praising of thy
Name, the furtherance of
thy true Religion, and pro-
sperity of the Church; and
nothing so great a grief,
as the contrary to any of
these: But this love we find
very cold in us; for we
long not earnestly to be in
thy continual presence, we
are very negligent, & soon
weary in speaking unto
thy Majesty by Prayer, and
in hearing of thy Majesty
speaking unto us, by the
Ministry of thy Holy
Word: We take no Feli-
city in meditating of thy
Mercies, in declaring thy
Praises, in commending
I 4 thy

Prayers and

thy wonderful Works :
Yea, we have oftentimes
more pleasure in beholding
vanities, in worldly mat-
ters, in idle and prophane
exercise, and in works of
darkness : We are violent
in revenging our own in-
juries, and in hating those
that do hurt our selves ;
but we are not so much as
heartily grieved with those
that offend thy Majesty by
sin, and obscure thy Glo-
ry, by corrupting thy true
Religion ; our love toward
our Brethren, ought to be
like the Love wherewith
thou hast loved us, that is,
pure, uncorrupt, vehement
and everlasting ; but we
love

Meditations.

love for our own pleasures,
and for worldly respects;
we are soon provoked to
anger; we mislike long, we
are hard to be reconciled;
we are not so dutifull to our
Parents and Governours,
so kind to our Friends, so
charitable to Strangers, so
courteous to those that are
in necessity as we ought to
be. We should be holy and
pure as thou art pure, be-
cause thou (Lord) hast re-
deemed us from all impure-
ness, that we should con-
tinually offer up unto thee
our Souls and Bodies, as a
pure, living and acceptable
Sacrifice: And because we
are thy Temples wherein

Prayers and

it pleaseth thee to dwell by
thy Grace and holy Spirit:
But we feel too too many
rebellious motions, and
corrupt cogitations, such
as we are ashamed to speak
of to any mortal Man: Our
minds should be drawn
up on high with the love
of heavenly and spiritual
Things, because we are
Strangers here, & Citizens
in Heaven; for that we
know the things that are
here below, to be uncer-
tain, and transitory as the
flower of the Grass; our
selves frail and mortal,
and the joys prepared for
us after this mortal life, to
be infinite, inestimable, and
ever

Meditations.

everlasting: Howbeit, we spend a great part of our time in following after the things of this World, in providing for this lump of Earth; our studies, cares and communications, are very earthly and prophane. Finally, we have broken all thy Laws, we can perform no good thing perfectly: We consider not always effectually, that we are in thy presence, & that all things are open unto thee, be they in respect of Men never so secret: We depend not constantly upon thy Providence, we rest not with full contentation of mind, in thy good pleasure

Prayers and

sure; we have not yet learned wholly to resign our selves, our Children, our Friends, and those blessings which thou hast given us, into thy hands, and to be contented without any murmuring or repining with that estate of Life wherein thou placest us. We are not careful enough for those whom thou hast committed to our especial Charge. We corrupt and abuse all thy good Gifts. We cannot rehearse the multitude of our offences, for we are guilty of infinite Crimes, which we remember not, nor ever knew, because of our ignorance
and

Meditations.

and negligence. And although we be in so ill a case, so vile of Nature, so void of goodness, so full of infirmities, and so near a thousand destructions, yet are we not thoroughly humbled before thee: We do not loath and lament our sins as we ought to do; we flatter our selves, we extenuate our faults, we inwardly dislike those that admonish us, we are slow in reforming of our selves; yea, which thou of all things most abhorrest, we are soon blown up with vain glory, & made proud of thy Gifts, and of those good things which thou of
thy

Prayers and

thy goodneſſe workeſt in
us and by us: Therefore,
O Lord, according to the
multitude of theſe our miſe-
ries, we fly unto the throne
of thy Grace, as they that
are guilty of infinite crimes,
craving thy pardon, as they
that are aſhamed of their
foulneſſe, and faine would
be waſhed with the Blood
of thy Son Jeſus Chriſt, as
they that are wounded to
everlaſting death, and de-
ſire to be healed with the
ſovereign Oil of thy Grace
and Holy Spirit. O Lord,
forſake not thoſe who de-
ſire earneſtly to forſake
themſelves. Receive us in-
to thy Favour, who only
appeal

Meditations.

appeal to thy Mercies. We know not any way to come unto thee, nor any means to obtain any good thing at thy hands, but only by him, even our Lord & Saviour, who saith, *I am the way, the truth, and the life.* Who hath promised, that *whatsoever we ask in his Name, thou wilt give it us:* And of whom thou thy self hast witnessed by all the Prophets and Apostles, that *He is the propitiation for all our Sins.* In him therefore, and thro' him we ask all good things of thy infinite Majesty. O Lord, although our Faith be weak, our Repentance,

Prayers and

penitance, our Sanctification, and all things in us imperfect, yet hear and accept us for the worthiness and perfection of thy Son, our Advocate and Redeemer. O Lord our God, forsake not the work of thine own Hands, remember not our sins any more, but vouchsafe to finish that new birth which thou hast begun in us; and to this end, we beseech thee always to soften and to prepare our hearts by thy Holy Spirit, unto the perfect obedience of thy Gospel, and to imprint in our Consciences a deep feeling of our sins, howbeit
in

Meditations.

in such measure, as that we be not driven thereby to despair of thy mercies, but better humbled before thee, provoked to a more serious Repentance of our former evil Life, to a greater fervency in praying, and seeking for thy help, and a more carefulness ever hereafter to flee even the shew of every evil thing, and all occasions of offending against thee, and our brethren: but because it is not enough to avoid evil; we beseech thee to give us a full assurance and a sweet feeling of thy Love towards us in Jesus Christ, wherewith our hearts

Prayers and

hearts being thoroughly inflamed, we may bring forth abundantly the fruits of thy Holy Spirit, and shew our faith by good works, to the testifying of our most dutiful Service towards thee: (O Lord our God) the stopping of the mouths of the ungodly, and provoking of a great many to praise thy most holy Name, for those good things which thou hast wrought in us: Therefore grant us, O most merciful Lord, a zeal for thy Glory; according to knowledge, boldness for thy Cause, joyned with Humility, Wisdom with Sincerity, joy-

Meditations.

joyfulness of mind, and true sadness for our sins, and the afflictions of our brethren. Teach us to obey and reverence our Superiors, to be loving to all our Equals and Inferiors, charitable to our Enemies, desirous to do good to all Men, to be diligent in our Callings, to abhor all deceitful and unrighteous dealings. Make us thankful for all thy benefits, faithful in using them according to thy will, patient in forbearing of them, constant in suffering the loss of all earthly benefits for thy everlasting truth. And because it is thy good pleasure;

Prayers and

sure that we shouldwrestle
and strive against our re-
bellious Nature, and a huge
Host of spiritual Enemies,
we beseech thee to arm us
from above with the com-
pleat armour of thy grace.
And for as much as our
Strength and Fortitude is
nothing in respect of our
adversaries, assist us mighti-
ly, that in all Temptations,
Dangers and Assaults, we
may lay sure hold with the
hand of Faith upon the Vi-
ctory of our Saviour Jesus
Christ, that albeit we be
not able to overcome in
our own persons; yet we
may overcome in his who
hath overcome for us, and
so

Meditations.

so after this Warfare finished, be made partakers of those Promises which are knit unto the victory, even the Crown of Glory, the fellowship of all the Saints, and the most comfortable Presence of thy Majesty, through the same our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. And we pray not only for our selves, but also for all Nations of the World, that they may be called to the comfortable Light, and effectual feeling of thy Gospel thro' the Preaching of the same; and for those that are already called, O Lord, we humbly beseech thee to make up, and happily

Prayers and

pily to finish that heavenly Work of the new Birth, which thou in mercy hast begun in them, strengthening and comforting their Souls daily more and more with the lively Food of thy blessed Word and Sacraments, sincerely ministered, according to thy most holy Ordinance; the which inestimable Grace, we beseech thee to make this Church of *England* partaker of yet more abundantly. And to this end, we most humbly crave of thy Majesty, to bless thy Servant *William*, our gracious King and Governor, with all manner of Excellent Bless-

Meditations.

Blessings, that he may worthily seek, and set forth thy Glory, by advancing thy true Religion, and suppressing all things that hinder the same. Give Grace to this Honourable Parliament, and to all that be put in Authority under them, faithfully to assist in this great Work. Make the Ministers of thy Work zealous in thy Truth, diligent in their Office, wise in propounding thy Mysteries unto the people, happy and comfortable in their labors. Increase the number of them, for they are few, and great is the multitude of those that want
and

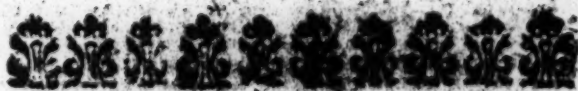
Prayers and

and thirst after thy Word,
Finally, shew thy self (O
Lord) mighty and merciful,
in relieving and comforting
all those that be afflicted
and humbled with any kind
of Calamity, whether it be
extreme Poverty, or bodily
Sickness, or inward grief of
Mind for the burden of their
Sins. But especially, remember
those in thy mercy, which
are in Bonds or Troubles
for thy Truth; granting
unto them patience in Suffering,
and chearfulness in Praising
thy Glorious Name, for thy
everlasting Love towards them
in Christ, and constancy in
pro-

Meditations.

Professing a good Cause
with a good Conscience
unto the end, through our
Lord Jesus Christ, in whose
Name we pray for these
and all other graces need-
ful, either for our selves, or
for the whole Church, as
he hath taught and com-
manded us, saying,

*Our Father which art in
Heaven, &c.*



A Heavenly Meditation.

63 **O** LORD my good
GOD, and most
gracious Father in Jesus
Christ

Prayers and

Christ, I wretched sinner,
here prostrate before thy
Throne of Grace, do even
out of the deep affliction of
my wretched heart, look
upon thee, and with sighs
and groans unfeigned for
sin, my humbled Soul doth
call upon thee, who art my
only hope, stay, and refuge
in all distresses, being of
power only to help, and
canst only ease and set me
free. Look not upon my
sins, I humbly beseech thee,
let them not stand be-
tween me and thy mercy.
Set aside all my guiltiness,
blot out all my transgressi-
ons, which daily and hour-
ly do highly provoke thee
to

Meditations.

to wrath and indignation
against me; and behold
me in mercy, for thy Son
Christ Jesus sake; in, by
and for whom only, mercy
is to be had. I know and
acknowledge, O Lord, that
thou art a just God in all
thy judgments, and none
more fit and worthy to
receive the sharpest taste of
thine afflicting and correct-
ing hand than my self, in
respect of the huge heap
of sin and wickedness by
me committed: But as
thou art most just, so (glo-
rious Father) thou art also
most merciful, and upon
thy gracious favour and
goodness in Christ Jesus,

Prayers and

I poor, miserable, sinful
wretch do depend, being
my sole and only support
in my greatest distresses
and dangers, be it by sick-
ness, disgraces, losses, or
any other cross or calamity
whatsoever. And when-
soever any of these out-
ward afflictions are upon
me, or any other inward
conflicts of the mind do
take hold on me (how
sharply & bitterly soever)
yet teach me, O Lord, by
thy Grace to make use
thereof to my comfort, and
that I may find, feel, and
confess that it is thy hand,
dear Father, that smiteth
me, and that thou finitest
me

Meditations.

me for my good, even that
the burning heat of Sin
may be quenched in me,
and I be wholly drawn
from my corrupt ways,
lest I perish with this wic-
ked, ungodly, and grace-
less World: Therefore,
direct thou my heart and
mind, to joy in this and all
other thy fatherly correcti-
ons, and to praise thy Ma-
jesty for the same, and with
gladsomness of heart, to
entertain griefs, troubles,
or any affliction of the
sharpest kind, that thy fa-
therly goodness shall think
meet to lay upon me; for,
O LORD, this wretched
Carcase of mine is a mass

Prayers and

of corruption, favouring of nothing else but earth and earthly matter, full of Blains, Sores, and deep Wounds, and had need of some sharp Corrosive to cleanse the same, that they may be the better cured; otherwise (dear Father) this poor Imprisoned Soul of mine cannot escape from being defiled with all manner of evil, and thereby in hazard to be spoiled of those Heavenly Graces, wherewith it should be adorned and beautified to Eternal Life. This wretched Soul of mine (most gracious God) doth pine away for sorrow and
even

Meditations.

even pant for breath, longing to receive increase of life from the living Stock Christ Jesus, which must be thy work, (and thy work only;) and work this effectually, I humbly beseech thee, which way thou wilt, and do thou give what thou wilt have me to do, and then do what thou wilt to me, and with me, thy unworthy Servant.

For though I should walk through the Valley of the shadow of Death, I could fear none evil; for thou art with me, thy Rod and thy Staff do comfort me: If I should enter into an enumeration of my sins, there

Prayers and

is no end of them: For,
how much time have I
idly spent? How much
time have I vainly spent?
How much time have I
most wickedly spent? And
how little time have I em-
ployed in thy Service?
This, O LORD, carrieth
in it an infinite number of
sins, and for this I deserve
justly to be forsaken of
thee, and to be reserved &
left unto endless condem-
nation both of Body and
Soul. But, however in
Youth I have not heeded
this, or in Age may easily
forget this, yet let thy grace
(most gracious Father, re-
mind the one, inform the
other;

Meditations.

other, and reform both;
that by thy Grace I may be
taught and directed, with
judgment to feel, with
conscience to acknowledg,
with remorse to lament my
former strayings and steps
ignorantly undertaken, un-
graciously followed, and
fearfully continued to my
endless danger, if thou
O Lord, do not in mercy
stay my courses, & set me
in the right path of eternal
salvation: Be pleas'd to this
end (most loving Father) to
follow me still with thine
afflicting hand, which is
thy Fatherly School, by
the which thou dost warn
& admonish thy Children

K. 5

and

Prayers and

and Servants to look into their sins past, whereby they provoke thee to punish, thou dost teach and instruct them to behold the sins present, which provoke still, and to see into the peril and danger to come, unto which sin doth bring them, and by which thou dost punish and correct them; not to destruction, but to amendment. Therefore, dear God, let me embrace Affliction as a welcome Guest, that Sin the cause thereof may be more & more wasted, and Glory the end thereof may be more & more hastned. Thou takest no pleasure in
pu-

Meditations.

punishing thy Children ;
but because thou wilt not
the death of a Sinner, but
that he may turn and live ;
therefore thou punishest :
which is the chastising Rod
of a loving Father, and not
the sharpest Sword of a
severe Judge. It is amend-
ment that thou lookest for,
which is the sweet fruit of
true and unfeigned Repen-
tance. But to turn to thee
in part, and not wholly, is
no Repentance: To sorrow
for sin, & to forbear sin in
time of Affliction only, is
no Repentance: To have
an inward touch for sin
without CHRIST, is no
Repentance: Therefore, O
Lord

Prayers and

Lord, give me a feeling
Conscience, vouchsafe me
thy Grace to apprehend a
perfect turning from sin;
and grant unto me, I hum-
bly beseech thee, a thorow
changed and truly mortifi-
ed heart, which cannot but
work in me an unfeigned
love of Righteousness, and
a full purpose and endea-
vour to serve thee my good
God and most loving Fa-
ther, with a sincere & true-
hearted Affection: And
guide me, O Lord, to flie
unto thee daily by Prayer,
for forgiveness of my sins;
for Grace to reform my
ways, and for true Faith to
take fast hold of mercy in
Christ,

Meditations.

Christ, which is the ready way to be made righteous before thee. And because (dear God) I may speedily still tread in that narrow path which is hardly found and not easily kept (thro' Satans malice, the Worlds enticements, & mine own in-born Corruption,) Let thy working grace never be wanting in me, by which I may be taught and confirmed, neither to prize of Works too high (with the Papists) nor too low (with Libertines) but to learn this for truth against both, that neither with the one must I presume to challenge Merit by my Works, nor
with

Prayers and

with the other must I dare
to take liberty to live as I
list: It is manifest and plain
O LORD, that Papists de-
pend more upon Phari-
saical working, than upon
Christian believing; and
it is true, that the loose
Libertine careth little, ei-
ther for Faith or Fruits:
And both these are flat
Enemies against the Cross
of thy dear Son, our a-
lone Saviour Christ Jesus:
The one taking upon him
to add a supply of merit
by works, to that which is
unto a man a free Gift from
thee by Grace, and a Sacri-
fice all-sufficient to satisfie
thee, and ransom us: The
others

Meditations.

others cry out daily in
their most filthy and cor-
rupt Conversation, *Let us
sin, that Grace may abound;*
& so indeed, turn the Grace
of thee our good God into
wantonness. Far be it from
me, dear Father, to be
insnared by either of these.
And yet an healthful Body,
a full Purse, Glory & world-
ly Reputation, or any
Prosperity, thou knowest,
are dangerous Engines to
intangle an unregenerate
Man; especially when a
sincere Profession, when a
holy Practice are of the
least esteem among Men
that are in fulness of Pro-
sperity: And therefore my
most

Prayers and

most gracious God) I humbly and heartily thank thy holy Majesty, in that it hath pleased thee to abridge my wealth, to abate my fulness, and to darken my transitory reputation; for though to the outward man they seem bitter and unsavory, yet to the inner man they bring the sweet and pleasant taste of Repentance not to be repented of, which is always followed with sweet fruit of amendment. And I most humbly beseech thy fatherly goodness, that as it hath pleased thee to strike at the door of my heart by these outward crosses, through the power

Meditations.

power of thy blessed Spirit, and thereby to awake me out of that deep sleep of sin and security whereinto I was faln, so as I was deprived (for the same) of all spiritual sense and feeling of Heaven and heavenly things, thro' the multitude of devouring Monsters, as Lust, Covetousness, Pride, Vain-glory, Hypocrisie, and a thousand of like nature, which were Syrene Deceivers, haunting me in the days of my Prosperity, and seeking utterly to spoil me of spiritual Life, and to pursue me to eternal Death, had it not thou of thine infinite goodness

Prayers and

ness discover'd their flights altered their course, and given ability to resist the temptation, against whose strength, without thine arm of defence, I cannot possibly prevail. Therefore, gracious God, continue to watch over me, and look upon me still, and behold me in my woful and wretched estate; give me wisdom from above to fore-see all dangers that may befall unto me, a true constant Faith to resist the fury, and all fulness of spiritual strength, that I may hold out the Combate, and overcome; for I long much, O Lord, to be even estranged

Meditations.

ged and free from those
snares and evils with which
I have been too much ac-
quainted, and to be a fami-
liar Companion to those
that fear thee, and to em-
brace and follow all holy
Duties which thou lookest
for, and requirest at the
hands of thy Servants, that
I may spend the rest of my
life to come, to please thee
and praise thee. Assist me,
dear Father, in this my de-
fire, give me thy continual
aid and assistance from a-
bove, to furnish and fortifie
me and my weakness; and
as by thy Grace thou hast
made me in some mea-
sure willing, so I humbly
be-

Prayers and

befeech thee to make me in
full measure able to find,
follow, and hold the way
that thou hast set before
thy Chosen to walk in.
And to this end, dear God,
let my carnal and corrupt
heart be by thy Spirit cleansed,
my flinty and stony
heart, by the dew of thy
Grace, softened, and my
ambitious and proud heart
by both thoroughly humbled;
that it being wholly
changed by thee & brought
into a Spiritual Temper,
and so made the Treasure-
house of good things, it
may send forth the sweet
Fruits of Holiness, to thy
Glory, the good example
of

Meditations.

of others, and mine own
endless Comfort in Christ
Jesus. This being wrought
in me, O Lord, of thy mere
mercy and goodnes, keep
me still in thy way, I most
humbly beseech thee, that
my desire maybe augmen-
ted daily to do thy Will,
and my ability also may
increase daily to fulfil this
desire; then let sorrows and
afflictions both in manner
and measure follow me,
and possess me so long as
thy self wilt, which are in-
deed most plain and profi-
table Teachers to inform
me how vile my self am,
how vain this wretched
and wicked World is, and
that

Prayers and

that the greatest Glory,
and most pleasing Delights
thereof, are mere vanity
and vexation of Spirit.
What availeth it, O Lord,
to be in health of Body, if
a Man have a sick Soul in
him? What profit can
there be to flow in worldly
Wealth, and to want the
treasure of the Soul, which
is the Preaching of the
Word, and the Holy Spirit
of Promise to sanctifie both?
And what is all the Glory
and Reputation in the
world, if a Man want Grace
to seek after the everlast-
ing Glory of the World to
come? Blessed Father,
give me a sound & health-
ful

Meditations.

ful Soul, and let the Body stand loaded with what sickness it shall please thee: Make me to abound in the Heavenly Treasures, and however Earthly Treasures fail me, let me be heartily well content therein. Lead me along to seek after the Glory that is Eternal, and let the fading Glory of this faithless World light where it will, rest with whom it will, and leave them, and whom it will. For he that hath all these without thy Grace (O God) hath but so many burthens to hold him down from rising up with Christ, that he may seek those

Prayers and

those things which are above, and he that hath the Grace of God, though he want all these, hath sufficient. I confess (dear Father) that if thou shouldst leave me to my self, and give me over to follow the sway of my sinful heart, I should be as deeply plunged in wickedness as the worst, and become dangerously defiled with those vile and loathsome Sins wherewith many in the World stand miserably tainted: For naturally (unless thy Grace restrain) I am most prone and ready to give allowance and consent to all evil, but the im-

me

Meditations.

moderate hearts of youth,
for the most part hinder the
feeling of this, and careless
age doth many times think
of it too late: So that, in
youth man is ready to flat-
ter himself with hope of
many days, and therefore
thinketh himself to have
time enough to turn from
wickedness; and Age is
ready to defer from day to
day, and make small hast
to amendment. But thy
Word, O LORD, teach-
eth Youth to look to it self
in time, both by threatening
and admonition; by threat-
ning, O young man (saith
Solomon) rejoyce in thy youth
and let thy heart cheer thee

L . . . in

Prayers and

*in the days of thy youth, and
walk in the ways of thy heart,
and in the sight of thine eyes.
But what followeth? Surely
youth must know, that
for all these the most just
and mighty God will bring
him to Judgment: By ad-
monishing in these words,
Remember thy maker in the
days of thy youth, whilst the
evil days come not, nor the
years approach wherein thou
shalt say, I have no pleasure
in them. And as a means to
bridle and restrain them,
this rule is set, That a young
man must redress his ways, by
taking heed thereunto accor-
ding to thy word. And as an
encouragement to rouse up
old*

Meditations.

old Age to walk religiously, it is said by the same Solomon, *Age is a Crown of glory, when it is found in the way of Righteousness.* So that if it be found in the ways of wickedness, it is the most hateful spectacle of filthy shame, and more to be loathed and abhorred than the stains of iniquity in hot and unbridled youth. And both young & old are taught by thee to know, that he that doth unrighteousness is not of thee, and he that is born of thee, sinneth not. Therefore, *Teach me (O Lord) to number my days, that I may incline my self to Wisdom.*

Prayers and

That wisdom which teacheth us to know thee, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent: That wisdom which telleth us that we were once Darkness, but are now Light in the Lord, and commandeth us to walk as Children of Light: That wisdom which bid-deth us to have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of Darkness, but to reprove them rather: That wisdom which enjoyneth us to cast off (concerning the conversation in times past) the old Man, which is corrupt through the deceivable Lusts, and to put on the
new

Meditations.

new Man, which, after thee, O God, is created in Righteousness and true Holiness. Finally, that wisdom which warneth us to walk circumspectly, not as Fools, but as Wise, redeeming the time, for the days are evil. Furnish me, dear Father, daily more and more, with some good portion of this wisdom, which may be a Lanthorn to my Feet, and a Light to my Steps, to lead me in the way of Righteousness, & to learn me to use this World as though I used it not, to fly Lust, to repent me of Sin, that this old Man,

Prayers and

of sin, which I carry about me, may be crucified with Christ my Saviour; that the body of sin may be destroyed, and henceforth I may no longer serve sin, lest when the Night is come of my evil-passed Day, and Death shall approach to demand his due, I then look about me too late, and be taken napping as the foolish Virgins were; when as neither Tears, nor Sighs, nor Cries will then be heard, but that the just Sentence of Condemnation will be given & cannot be revoked. Deliver me, most gracious Father, from this peril, and direct

Meditations.

direct me by thy Grace, to be ever mindful of thine afflicting Hand, that my Soul may be humbled before thee, and reap this comfort from the consideration of mine own wickedness, that it is thy unspeakable mercy that I am not utterly consumed. But thou art my portion, and I will still hope in thee, for thou art always good to them that trust in thee, or to the Soul that seeketh thee. Blessed God, let me evermore trust in thee, and let my Soul continually seek after thee, & willingly and joyfully wait for thy Salvation, and when it shall

Prayers and

please thee to think it fit,
I humbly beseech thee to
shorten these days of sin,
and speed the delivery of
this my wretched Soul out
of the loathsome Prison of
this my sinful Body, that
with the rest of thy Saints,
it may take possession of
thy heavenly Inheritance
purchased for me and all
the chosen *Israel* of God, by
the death and blood-shed-
ding of the immaculate &
unspotted Lamb, Christ
Jesus. To whom, with thee,
O Father, and the Holy
Ghost, be all Praise, Power,
Majesty and Dominion,
both now and evermore.
Amen.

Meditations.



A Prayer for the acknowledging of God's Goodness and Mercy unto us.

64 **A**Lmighty Saviour,
how gracious hast
thou been to poor affli-
cted Souls? To promise
them, that whosoever ask-
eth shall receive, who so-
ever seeketh shall find, and
whosoever knocketh; it
shall be opened unto him.
Doubtless, thou takest a
pleasure in giving, in ac-
cepting, and in opening
the gates of mercy. Behold
then! I do not only ac-
L 5 know-

Prayers and

knowledge this goodness to all Mankind, but thy particular Mercy to my self: And whereas I find the want even of good desires, I beseech thee supply me with thy infused Grace, for I seek my lost self, and I seek thee whom I have lost: I find thee in midst of manifold Compassions; I find my self in the snares of Temptations and Miseries: I find thee in the Treasure-house of thy Promises; I find my self in the Dungeon and Prison-house of my iniquity: I find thee in the Sanctuary of Heaven; I find my self in the depths of Hell. Behold then,

Meditations.

then, I crave both to seek my self and thee ; my self, as having committed many grievous sins, for which I would fain be directed to the School of Repentance ; thee, as having suffered for them, yea, been brought unto death, and a most grievous passion for my sake : But seeing thou hast in mercy, by thy Promise, made thy self a Debtor unto us, give me leave to challenge the performance, according to thy own appointment. Thou hast told us plainly, at what time soever a sinner doth repent him of his sins, thou wilt blot out his iniquities
and

Prayers and

and put away his transgressions from thy remembrance. O Lord, I do repent, and am heartily sorry for offending so good a God; and whereas like a lame Cripple, I cannot follow thee to the Heavenly Harvest, whereby I am worthy to lose my Inheritance. I cannot come to the perfection of Repentance; I fly to thy Grace to supply my defects, and I beseech thee of thy bounty, by the rich treasure of thy mercies in Christ, to cast down a favourable countenance on me, and make me partaker of all thy Promises.

Amen.

A.

Meditations.



A Prayer for God's protection of his Church in respect of the present troubles of it.

65 **A** Lmighty God, thou
Lord of Hosts and
Governour of all things,
whose power no Creature
is able to resist, to whom it
belongeth justly to punish
sinners, and to be merciful
to them that truly repent ;
work in us, and in all thy
People, unfeigned and ef-
fectual Repentance, that
what thou seest amiss in us,
and amongst us, or in any
parts of thy Church, may
speedi-

Prayers and

speedily and throughly be reformed, that which is righteous and good in thy sight, may be established and maintained, especially in this our Land, and other places, professing thy Truth and Gospel. And the mean time, while we strive after that which may be most agreeable to thy holy Will, as it is revealed in thy heavenly Word: Be merciful unto us, and bring us on rather as thou seest it needful, by the Rod of thy Fatherly Correction: Evermore also supporting us, as our most gracious Shepherd (whilst thy true though weak and poor Flock)

Meditations.

Flock) by that Staff of
Comfort. And thou Son
of *David*, that knowest the
merciless condition of Sa-
tan, and cruel men his
cursed Instruments, we
humbly beseech thee, ne-
ver to deliver us over in-
to their power ; but save
and defend us, and all thy
People evermore from
the hands of all our Ene-
mies, both Bodily and
Ghostly; and more par-
ticularly at this time, we
earnestly beseech thee, O
Heavenly Father, by the
mediation of that thy Son
Jesus our only Mediator,
to be merciful to those
that are gone out from us,
or

Prayers and

or joyn with us, or stand
out for the Truth or any
righteous Cause; and give
that issue to the present
troubles of thy Church, as
may make most for thy
Glory, the advancement of
thy Truth and Gospel, the
relief of all thy distressed
People, in all those parts
of thy troubled Church;
and for the establishing of
Truth & Peace in this our
Land; May it please thee
once to free all our Brethren
from the dominion of that
Mystery of Iniquity, as also
still to shield and secure us
and all other professing thy
Name & Truth, from that
cruel Faction, which as if
they

Meditations.

they delighted in Blood,
have already spoiled so
many Nations: Lord thou
only art the Catholick
King, we can acknowledg
no King over all the Earth
but thy self, nor any uni-
versal Head over all thy
Church, but that only
Archbishop of our Souls,
thy Son Jesus, our blessed
Saviour, to whom all pow-
er is given both in Heaven
and Earth. Arise then thou
Lord, to whom the King-
doms belong, and shew
thy self, and let not the
Man of the Earth any lon-
ger exalt himself, lest he be
too proud, and lest he as-
cribe to himself, or to his
gra-

Prayers and

graven Image, or vain Idols, the Conquest that thou shalt see and suffer over thy People. *Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but to thy Name be the praise.* For the honour of thy Name arise before *Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasses*, before *Great Britain*, and other Countries that call upon thy Name: Arise and shew thy self for us, for on thee only do we call; we call on thee to save us and our forces, and thy People now in great danger. How, and in what manner, and at what time fully to declare thy salvation, we refer to thy heavenly Wis-

Meditations.

Wisdom; only in the mean time that it may please thee to sanctifie and save, to preserve and provide for them and us, and all thine both in Field, at Sea, and City, protect, defend and deliver them, us, and ours, at home and abroad. And thou great Shepherd of *Israel*, be pleased also to take down more and more the pride of the man of Sin, that hath and would exalt himself against thee. Aswage thou the malice of those who are Enemies to us, or to any of thy People, and evermore confound all their devices, that we being arm'd with thy defence may

Prayers and

may ever more and more
give praise to thee, who
art the only Author of our
Peace, and giver of all Vi-
ctory. And all this, good
Lord, for us, for them, for
all thine, not for our me-
rits, but for thy great mer-
cies sake, and for the truths
sake of thy gracious Pro-
mise in Jesus Christ our
Lord and only Advocate
and Redeemer; to whom,
with thee, O Father, and
the Holy Spirit, be all
Praise and Glory, now and
for evermore. *Amen.*

Meditations.

A Godly Prayer.

66. **O** Merciful Father,
and Lord of Heaven and Earth, we come before thy presence to worship thee, in calling upon thy Name, and in giving thanks unto thee. And tho' our duties and our very necessity call us hereunto; yet we confess our Hearts be so dull and untoward, that unless thou be merciful unto us, to teach us how to pray, we shall not please thee, nor profit our selves in these Duties, we therefore most humbly beseech thee to
raise

Prayers and

raise up our hearts with thy good spirit, and so to dispose us to Prayer, that with true fervency of heart, feeling of our wants, humbleness of Mind, and Faith in thy gracious Promises, we may present our Suits acceptably to thee, by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. And thou, O Father of all Mercies, that hast called us unto thee, hear us, and pity thy poor Servants ; we have indeed sinned wonderfully against thee, through blindness of Mind, profaneness of Spirit, hardness of Heart, Self-love, Worldliness, carnal Lust, Hypocrisie,

- *Meditations.*

lie, pride, vanity, unthankfulness, infidelity, and other our native corruptions, which being bred in us & with us, have defiled us even from the Womb, and unto this day have broken out, as Plague-Sores, into innumerable Transgressions of thy holy Laws; the good ways whereof we have too carelessly, if not willingly declined from, and have many times displeased thee, and offended our own Consciences, in choosing and following those things which thou hast most justly & severely forbidden us; and besides all this, we have too long stood

Prayers and

stood against the gracious means of our Conversion, or at least not stooped and humbled our selves before thee, as we ought, although we have wanted none of those helps; which thou vouchsafest unto thy wandering Children, to fetch them home withal; for we have had (together with thy glorious works) thy word calling upon us without, and thy good Spirit within, and have been solicited by Promises, by Threatnings, by Blessings, by Chastising, and by Examples of all sorts, and especially by those wonderful deliverances of our selves

Meditations.

selves above any other of
thy Servants, and of our
LAND above any Nation
in the World, and yet our
corrupted spirits cannot
become wise before thee,
to humble themselves, and
rightly to acknowledge
thy goodness; we will not
take heed as we ought,
and as thou most justly
dost require, and mayest
expect of us. Wherefore
(O LORD GOD) we do
acknowledg thy patience
to have been infinite and
incorruptible, in that thou
hast been able to hold thy
hands from revenging thy
self on us thus long: and
yet pleasest to hold open
M the

Prayers and

the door of Grace, that
we might come in unto
thee and be saved. And
now, O blessed Lord God,
we are desirous to come
unto thee, how wretched
soever in our selves; yea,
our very Wretchedness
sends us unto thee, unto
Thee with whom the Fa-
therless, and he that hath
no Helper, the Sinner also,
and he that hath no merit,
finds Mercy and Grace.
But we come to thee in thy
Son's Name not daring to
come in our own, in his
Name that came for us, we
come to thee, in his media-
tion whom thou hast sent,
in him (O Father) in
whom

Meditations.

whom thou hast professed
thy self to be well-pleased,
we come unto thee; and do
most humbly beseech thee
to pity us, & to save us for
thy mercy sake in him. O
LORD our GOD, our
sins have not out-bidden
that blood of thy holy Son,
which speaks for our Par-
don; nor can any be so
infinite as thou art in thy
Mercies. And our hearts (O
God thou seest) are desirous
to have peace with thee;
and war with our Lusts, &
wish that they could melt
before thee, and be dissol-
ved into Godly mourning
for all that filth that
hath gone through them

Prayers and

and defiled them: And our desires are now to serve & please thee, and our purposes to endeavor it more faithfully. We pray thee therefore, for the Lord Jesus sake, to seal up in our Consciences thy gracious pardon for all our sins past, and give us to feel the consolation of thy Grace shed abroad in our hearts for our eternal Comfort & Salvation. And that we may know this persuasion to be of thy Spirit, and not of carnal presumption (Blessed God) let those Graces of thy Spirit, which do accompany Salvation, be poured out more plentifully

Meditations.

tifully upon us: Increase in us all Godly knowledge, Faith, Patience, Temperance, Meekness, Wisdom, Godliness, love of thy Word with Saints, and Servants, a zeal for thy Glory: Give us Judgment to discern the difference of good and ill, and also of things present which are temporary, and things to come which are Eternal.

Make us yet at the last wise hearted to lay up our Treasure in Heaven; and to set our affections more upon things which are above, where Christ sits at thy right hand. And let all the vain and transi-

Prayers and

lory inticements of this
poor Life appear unto us
as they are, that our hearts
may be no more intangled
& bewitched with the love
of them, O Lord God our
G O D, who hast dearly
bought us to thy own self,
give us so honest hearts as
may be glad to yield thee
possession in thine own; &
be thou so gracious as yet
to make them up, though
we have desperately held
thee out of them in times
past; & be pleased to dwell
in us, and in our Land, and
reign in us, & among us by
thy holy Word, & power-
ful Spirit, that we may be
sure to reign with thee in
thy

Meditations.

thy glorious Kingdom, according to thy Promise in thy Word, thro' him that hath purchased that Inheritance for all that trust in him; and seeing thou dost so promise these graces and mercies to us, as that thou requirest our industry and diligence in the use of such means as serve thereto, good Lord: Let us not so cross our Prayer for Grace, as not to seek that by diligence, which we make shew to seek by Prayer, lest our own ways condemn us of Hypocrisie. Stir us up therefore (O Lord) to the frequent use of Prayer, to the often and

Prayers and

serious reading, hearing,
and meditating of thy holy
Word; teach us to profit
by the conversation of thy
People, & to be profitable
in our own. Make us wise
to apprehend all oppor-
tunities of doing or re-
ceiving Spiritual Good:
Strengthen us with Grace
to observe our Hearts and
Ways, to retain them in
good order, or to reduce
them quickly. Let us ne-
ver think any Company so
good as thine, or any time
so well spent, as that which
is in thy Service, and in
beautifying of thine Image
in our selves or others.
Particularly, we pray thee
open

Meditations.

open our Eyes to see our own natural Infirmities, and to discover the Advantages which Satan gets thereby. And give us care to strive most when we are most assaulted, and endamaged. And thou, O God, that hast promised to bless thy own Ordinances, bless all things unto us, that we may thereby grow in Grace, and in Knowledge, Faith, Love, and all heavenly Vertues, and so may shine as Lights in this dark World, giving good example to all men, & may at the end of our Race rest and lie down in the peace of a good Conscience em-

M 5 balm'd

Prayers and

balmd with a goodreport,
& may leave thy blessings
entailed unto ours after us
for an Inheritance. These,
O Father, are our special
Suits, wherein we beseech
thee to set forth the won-
derful riches of thy Graces
towards us for Christ Jesus
sake, and as for this Life,
and the things thereof, we
crave them of thee, so far as
may be for our good, and
thy Glory, beseeching thee
to provide for us, as unto
this day, in mercy. And
when thou wilt humble or
exalt us, govern us so long
and so far in all Conditions
and Changes, as we may
cleave fast unto thee our
God,

Meditations.

God, unchangeable, rejoicing in thee and thy unchangeable love, above all things, esteeming thee our portion and sufficient Inheritance for evermore.

Now what Grace we crave for our selves which are here before thy Presence) we humbly beg for all those that any way belong unto us, and that by duty or promise we owe our prayers unto; beseeching thee to be as gracious unto them, as to our own Souls, & especially to such of them as in respect of any present Affliction or Temptation, may be in special need of some more speedy help

Prayers and

help and comfort from
thy mighty Hand. Yea,
our Lord God, we hum-
bly desire thee to bless
with our Prayers thy
whole Church; but more
especially this Nation, and
therein the King's most
Excellent Majesty, our
Sovereign Lord, (King
WILLIAM;) also all that
be in Authority among us,
beseeching thee to follow
him and all of them, with
those Blessings of thy Pro-
tection & Direction which
may preserve them safe
from the malice of the
World, & of Satan, & may
make them in their great
places faithful to thee, for
the

Meditations.

the good of thy Church
and People, and their own
eternal happiness and ho-
nour, Lord look merciful-
ly on those in the Church,
that are under the Cross.
And we beseech thee to
furnish all Churches, espe-
cially in this LAND. with
faithful and fruitful Mini-
sters, and to bless their
lives and labours for those
merciful ends and rules to
which thou hast ordained
them. Sanctifie thy Peo-
ple, O God, and let them
not deceive themselves
with formality of Religion
instead of the Power there-
of; give them Grace to
profit both by thy Fa-
vours,

Prayers and

yours, and by those Chastisements which thou hast sent, either in particular, or in general, successively, or mixed among them, or upon them. And Lord, suppress that rage of sin and prophaness in all Christian States, which breeds so much Apostacy and Defection, threatening the taking away of this Light from them. Confound, O GOD, all the counsels and practices of Satan and his Ministers, which are, or shall be taken up against thee and the Kingdom of thy dear Son. Call in the dispersed *Jews*, and make up the fulness of the *Gentiles*,

Meditations.

tiles, that thy Name may be glorious in all the world, the days of Iniquity may come to an end, and we, with all thine Elect People, may come to see thy Face in Glory, and be filled with the Light thereof for evermore.

Grant these our humble Petitions, good Father, for Christ Jesus thy dear Son, our blessed Saviour's sake: To whom, with thee, and thy holy Spirit, be all glory and praise now and for ever. Amen.

A

Prayers and



*A Prayer to be used upon the
30th. of January, being
the day of the Martyrdom
of King Charles the First.*

67 **O** Most mighty God,
terrible in thy
Judgments, and wonderful
in thy doings towards the
Children of Men, who in
thy heavy displeasure didst
suffer the Life of our late
gracious Sovereign to be
this day taken away by
wicked hands; we, thy un-
worthy Servants, humbly
confess, that the sins of this
Nation have been the cause
which hath brought this
heavy

Meditations.

heavy Judgment upon us. But, O gracious God, when thou makest inquisition for Blood, lay not the guilt of this innocent Blood (the shedding whereof nothing but the blood of thy Son can expiate) lay it not to the charge of the People of this Land, nor let it ever be required of us, or our posterity. Be merciful, be merciful unto thy People, whom thou hast redeemed, and be not angry with us for ever; but pardon us for thy mercies sake, through the merits of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

A

Prayers and



*A Prayer to be used upon the
29th. of May, being the
day of his Majesty's birth,
and happy return to his
Kingdoms.*

68 **O** God, who by thy
Divine Providence
and Goodness didst this
day first bring into the
World, and didst this day
also bring back and restore
to us, and to his own just
and undoubted Rights, our
most gracious Sovereign
Lord, thy Servant King
Charles; Preserve his Life,
and Establish his Throne
we beseech thee. Be unto
him

Meditations.

him a helmet of Salvation
against the face of his Ene-
mies, and a strong Tower
of defence in the time of
Trouble. Let his Reign be
prosperous, and his days
many. Let Justice, Truth,
and Holiness; let Peace,
and Love, and all Christi-
an Vertues flourish in his
time. Let his People serve
him with honour and obe-
dience; and let him so
duly serve thee on Earth,
that he may hereafter e-
verlastingly Reign with
thee in Heaven; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. *A-*
men.

Prayers and



*A devout Prayer against the
Plague, in the time of
Common Visitation.*

69 **A** Lmighty God, our
Heavenly Father,
whose Judgments are most
severe and terrible against
obstinate Offenders; but
thy mercies infinite to all
that with hearty Repen-
tance and true Faith turn
unto thee: We, the sinful
people of this Land, whom
for our Iniquities, and ma-
nifold Transgressions, thou
hast in many places most
justly visited with the noy-
some

Meditations.

some Plague & Pestilence;
come now before the
throne of thy Grace in the
Name of thy dear Son, in
whom thou art well plea-
sed: And in confidence of
that Atonement which he
hath made for us, most
humbly beseech thee to
pardon and forgive us all
our sins in thought, word,
or deed, committed against
thy Divine Majesty; to
work in us daily more and
more, a true, hearty, and
unfeigned Sorrow, and Re-
pentance for the same; to
plant in our hearts a sin-
cere and settled Resolution
by the assistance of thy
Grace, to lead the rest of
our,

Prayers and

our Lives in careful Obedience to thy holy Will in all things, and so to remove from us this Plague, and grievous Sicknes, that we be not utterly consum'd by means of thy heavy hand. To this end, grant us, good Lord, of thy Grace and Mercy, all things conducing hereunto; seasonable Weather, and good Air, and wholsom Food, and powerful Medicines, and whatever else thou seest to be good and profitable for us; together with a due Care and Conscience in using of the same, that we neither presume, nor tempt thy Majesty
by

Meditations.

by neglecting the means
which thou hast appointed,
nor yet despair of thy blessings
in the diligent use of
them, nor in any event
repine or murmur at thy
Providence, what portion
soever it allots us; but that
submitting our selves to
thy good pleasure in all
things, we may commit the
keeping of our Souls to
thee in well-doing, as unto
a faithful Creator, with
compassionate pity; and
Charity (as we are told)
succouring the sick, and
preserving the whole, and
praying fervently for all;
and finally, that depending
entirely upon thy good-
ness,

Prayers and

ness, we may wait the hour of thy gracious Deliverance in faith, and hope, & constant patience, with perfect resignation to thy wise and just appointment in all things, to the which we betake ourselves, & the whole Nation, and whatsoever concerns us. Be merciful unto us, O God, be merciful unto us, for our Souls trust only in thee, and under the shadow of thy Wings shall be our Refuge, till this Calamity be overpast; which we beseech thee speedily to remove, if it be thy Will. O Lord God of Mercies, and Father of Compassions,

Meditations.

voyce of Joy and Health
once more into our dwell-
lings, for the alone Merits
sake of thy dear Son Jesus
Christ, our only Mediator
and Advocate. *Amen.*

*A special Remedy for a sick
Soul, whereby the Sinner
may recover himself from
the valley of Tears to the
hill of Joy: Or, a Medi-
tation for the Plague.*

70 **F**irst, Fast and Pray,
& then take a quart
of Repentance of *Nineve*,
and put in two handfulls
of Faith in the Blood of
N Christ

Prayers and

Christ, with as much hope and charity as you can get, and put it into a Vessel of a clean Conscience; then boyl it on the fire of Love so long, till you see, by the Eyes of Faith, the black Foam of the love of this World to stick in your stomach; then scum it off clean with the Spoon of faithful Prayer. When this is done, put in the Powder of Patience, and take the Cloth of Christ's Innocency, and strain all together in his Cup; then drink it burning hot next to thy heart, and cover thee warm with as many cloaths of amendment of Life, as God shall

Meditations.

shall strengthen and enable thee to bear, that thou mayest sweat out all the Poyson of Covetousness, Pride, Whordom, Idolatry, Usury, Swearing, Lying, with such like. And when thou feel'st thy self alter'd from the forenamed Vices, take the Powder of Say-well, and put upon thy Tongue, but drink thrice as much Do-well daily. Then take the Oyl of Good-works and anoint therewith thy Eyes, Ears, Hearts, & Hands, that they may be ready and nimble to minister to the poor members of Christ. When this is done, then in God's

Prayers and

Name arise from sin willingly, read the Bible daily, take up the Cross of Christ bodily, and stand to it manfully, bear all Visitations patiently, Pray continually, rest thankfully, and thou shalt live everlastingly, and come to the Hill of Joy quickly. To which place hasten us, good Lord, speedily.

The

Meditations.

*The Prayer of King Edward
the Sixth.*

71 **L**ORD God, deliver
me out of this mis-
erable and wretched life, &
take me among thy chosen:
howbeit, not my will, but
thy Will be done. Lord I
commit my Spirit to thee:
O Lord, thou knowest how
happy it were for me to be
with thee; yet for thy cho-
sen's sake send me Life and
Health, that I may truly
serve thee, O my Lord
God, bless thy People,
and save thine Inheritance.

Prayers and

O Lord God, save thy
chosen People of *England*.
O my Lord God, defend
this Realm from Papistry,
and maintain thy true Re-
ligion, that I and my Peo-
ple may praise thy Holy
Name. *Amen.*



*A Prayer to be used upon the
2d. 3d. and 4th. of Sep-
tember, being the days
that the greatest part of the
City of London was con-
sumed by Fire.*

72 **L**ook down, O Lord,
in the bowels of thy
mercy, upon the sorrows
and

Meditations.

and distresses of thy Ser-
vants, who in the deepest
sense of thy amazing Judg-
ments, and our own mani-
fold provocations, lie pro-
strate in the dust before
thee.

To thee, O God, holy
and true, belong mercy and
forgiveness; but unto us
confusion of face, as it is
this day: For we are that
incorrigible Nation who
have resisted thy Judg-
ments, & abused thy Mer-
cies, we have despised the
Chastisements of the Lord,
and turned his Grace into
wantonness.

What shall we then say
unto thee, O thou Pre-
N 4 server

Prayers and

server of men? Thou hast found out the iniquity of thy Servants, and discovered our nakedness & pollution, in a vengeance suited and answerable to our grievous crying sins. Our pride, oppression, and fullness of Bread, hath made us like to *Sodom*, and thou hast afflicted us as *Gomorrab*. We should not be reclaimed by thy exemplary Punishments upon others, or our selves, and thou hast made us a terror and astonishment to all that are roundabout us.

And now, O Lord, thou art most just in all that is come upon us; for thou
hast

Meditations.

hast done right, but we have done very wickedly, yet behold we are all thy People, though an unthankful and rebellious People; suffer us therefore to imploy thy pity, and the sounding of thy bowels, and for thy Names sake, for thy mercies sake, for Christ Jesus sake, encline thine Ear to us, and save us.

Above all, we beseech thee, abandon us not to ourselves, but by what method soever it shall please thee to reduce us, though to this bitter Cup of trembling thou shalt add more and more grievous afflicti-

N 5 ons,

Prayer, &c.

us, by any the severest
course, subdue us unto thy
self, and make us see the
things belonging to our
Peace before they be hid
from our Eyes, that being
duly humbled under thy
mighty Hand, we may be
capable of being relieved
and exalted in thy due
time, through Christ our
Lord. *Amen.*



FINIS.

Thankful
REMEMBRANCES
O F
God's Wonderful
DELIVERANCES
Of this
LAND.

Psalms 72. 18.

Blessed be the Lord God, our
the God of Israel, which
only doth wonderful things.

Psalms 51. 15.

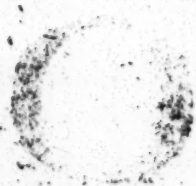
O Lord open thou my lips,
and my mouth shall
forth thy Praise.

Printed for C. Bromer. 1698.

WASHINGTON

1877

1877



Thankful
REMEMBRANCES
OF
God's Wonderful
DELIVERANCES
Of this
LAND.

A Thanksgiving for our deliverance from the unmatched Gun powder-Treason, 1605.

O Lord God, the great Deliverer and Defender of those which always seek & trust

Thankful

trust in thee; accept, we humbly beseech thee, th our poor, but heart Thanksgiving, for thy gracious Providence over us, and our wonderful deliverances. We acknowledge if thou hadst dealt in Justice according to our long and grievous provocations, thou mightest have cut off Branch and Root in one day, blown up King and Kingdom at one clap. Nay, if, notwithstanding our presumptions against thee, thy wonderful protection had not been over us, there had not been left us a Being: For, our Enemies had undermined us, they

Remembrances.

they had digged in the deep, as if they would have made a Covenant with Hell and the Pit for our utter destruction. They had made strong Combination, and though their Counsel was against the Lord and his Anointed, yet had they bound the assurance and secrecie of it with the Sacrament of the Lord; so their consultations were hid and covered in darkness, and it was a Plot past Man's finding out. But thine eyes, O Lord, didst see their Villany, and thine ears did hear the Cry, not of us, who knew nothing, but of our extremities,

Thankful

mities, which thou hadst
pity on ; for thou brokest
the bonds of the ungodly,
and didst frustrate the
Counsel of thine Enemies,
and didst enough to make
them see that there is no
counsel against thee, or thy
People which fear thee,
and call upon thy Name.
Thou deliveredst even us,
our King, our Queen, our
Prince, our Nobles, and
our whole State of all
degrees to be assembled in
Parliament at that hour,
from the power of dark-
ness, and from the Fiery
Furnace, which was pre-
pared for us not to make
brick, but either Brick or
nothing.

Remembrances.

nothing of us. How did we then see, what we have often heard out of thy holy Word? That before they cry, thou wilt hear, and while they yet speak, thou wilt help. O how nigh art thou to them that call on thee, even to all such as call on thee in Truth! Surely thou wilt hear their cry, and wilt help them. *Lord what is man that thou art mindful of him, or the Son of man, that thou so regardest him?* What is this little part of the Word, that thou shouldest set thine eyes of Providence on it so, as to shew thy self a Watchman for us
that

Thankful

that never sleepeth, and whose care of us cannot be either corrupted by the wicked and wealthy Men of the Earth, or frustrate by the deep and crafty Fiends of Hell? What, O Lord, was the zeal of those Saint-makers, that they would have sent up at once such a company to Heaven, in fiery Chariots, No, no, the Lord was not in the fire that set them on work, nor would they be in those fiery Works. O what a desolation and misery had fallen upon us, if thou hadst not been on our side, when Men rose up against us! They had
swal-

Remembrances.

swallowed us up quick,
when they were so wrath-
fully displeased at us: Yea,
if thou hadst not been on
our side, not only the li-
ving had been swallowed
up, but the noise of that
blow would even have
raised the dead, raised the
foundations of the Earth,
and rent in sunder those
everlasting Monuments:
our Laws & Statutes had
been turned to dust, our
whole Land into misery
and utter desolation, we
had (as we had too justly
deserved) been scarce left
as *Sodom*, we had been
made like unto *Gomorrha*,
Zim, and *Ohim*, had dwelt
in

Thankful

in our Houses, Superstition, had regard in our Church, and Treason had reigned in our Land; But it pleased thy controuling Wisdom so to bring it about, that the Deceiver should be deceived, the Greedy devoured, and the same Pit which the Malicious digged, themselves should fall into it. For as by Powder they intended to blow it up, so didst thou first amaze them with a blast; and by it were some of them sent to their long Home from their own Houses, while they were hatching this mischief for us; as they
made

Meditations.

made Wood a colour to hide their malice under, so some perished by the Tree.

The Instruments, as Powder, Wood, and Fire, which they prepared for our Destruction, by the same means were they destroyed. Now as thou hast often made bare thy Holy Arm, and we still find it stretched out for our wonderful deliverance, so do thou make it a means, good Lord, that all our Neighbours, yea, that all the World may see that thou art our Saviour, and with us learn to put their trust in thee, and that their de-

Thankful

destruction maybe a warning to the rest of that viperous brood, speedily to leave their damnable ways lest they follow their destruction. But it is we that are escaped as a Bird out of the Snare of the Fowler, the Snare is broken and we are delivered. For which so gracious and wonderful deliverance of that Fifth of *November*, 1605. let us and our Posterity attter us, with Bonfires, Trumpets, Shawms, and Psalms, laud and praise thy holy Name, on the Fifth of *November*, yearly for ever: and let us not only keep one day yearly in our
pub-

Remembrances.

publick Congregations to
praise thy great and glo-
rious Name; but let us all,
which at least as yet live
by that preservation, be
never forgetful, privately
to acknowledge before
thee, and unto thee, that
thou art the Almighty, and
never-failing Saviour of all
that put their trust in thee,
and let those that come
after us, praise thee for
us, from Generation to
Generation, for ever and
ever. *Amen.*

A

Thankful



*A Thanksgiving for our deli-
verance from the Spanish
Invasion in 1588.*

74 **O** LORD our God,
how glorious and
excellen^t is thy Name;
Whose Strength and Pow-
er extends to the utmost
parts of the Earth,
and whose Wonders are
wrought upon the Seas,
and Miracles upon the dry
Land; at whose anger the
Heavens fly, the Earth dis-
solves, and the Seas make
a noise: Who dost com-
mand the raging Tempests,
and

Remembrances.

and stillest the blustering
Winds, making them the
Instruments to fight a-
gainst thy Enemies, and to
be helpers of thy Servants;
who by the watery Ele-
ments shew'dst thy Power,
& declaredst thy strength
when we were beset with
fear, our Beacons burning,
our Soldiers marching,
our Counties mustering,
our Armies incamping,
our Ships preparing: when
we were even faint with
sorrow, and fear over-ran
the Land, when our Ene-
mies Gallies, Galliaffes,
and Ships came with full
sail for to assail us with
their murthering Pieces,
O and

Thankful

and more murdering purposes for to destroy us by whole multitudes; they brought their Whips to scourge us, their Seals to mark us out for slavery; their invincible Navy had hemmed us in: But when they swelled in their pride, and grew confident in their arm of flesh, when they had even set sight upon our Land, and counted all their own, then even when they were in Expectation presently to take our Land from us, and in assurance of presumption to slay our strong Men, and torture our young Men, to
ravish

Remembrances.

ravish our Wives, and to
deflower our Virgins, to
triumph over all, and to
tyrannize and glut them-
selves with our Blood ;
when they thought all
their own, their Ships at
Anchor, their Navy being
grapled and conjoynd in
one for our utter destru-
ction ; Then, O Lord God
our Heavenly Father, it
pleased thee to look
down from thy glorious
Throne, on us miserable
Wretches, and to remem-
ber the glory of thy Name,
called on amongst us; and
therefore at that instant
to put such courage into
the heart of our ever re-

O 2 nowned

Thankful

nowned *Elizabeth*, that
Kingly Queen, as in per-
son to go forth to view
her Royal Army, and to
encourage her Souldiers,
which then attended the
Enemies approaches. And
then (O Lord) when we
could make our selves
strong only by Prayer to
thee, and cryed and called
for thy help and succour :
then it pleased thee to
give Valour to our Cap-
tains, to give wit and un-
derstanding for good Pro-
jects and worthy Inven-
tions ; yea to make the
Winds, the Fire, and the
Air, with the Waves and
Waters & all to be on our
sides,

Remembrances.

sides, and to fight the Battle for us thy poor unworthy Servants, and then by thy gracious Providence thou didst put fear in our Enemies hearts ; and the better to cause that we might know it to be thy doing, even at Midnight, when we could not see to fight, thou sentest a gale of Wind to carry Flames of Fire for us to get Victory upon the Water, against our Enemies : For the which most happy Victory desirous to shew our thankfulness to thee (O Lord of Hosts) as then we had our Enemies Banners displayed in the chiefest

Thankful

preaching place of this
Land: & sung an Heavenly
Hallelujah of praise to the
Glory of thy Name in all
our publick Assemblies; so
every one for our own par-
ticulars are ever bound to
have in mind, how upon
the seventh of *Aug. 1588.*
thou wrought'st that great
deliverance of this Land
from that proud Navy of
the cruel *Spaniards*, and to
bless & praise thy glorious
Name from one Genera-
tion to another, both now
and for ever. *Amen.*



A Thanksgiving for the deliverance of this Land from Popish Superstition and Tyranny.

75 **O** Lord God, we do acknowledge that we come late with our sacrifices, so that we deserve that thou shouldest have no respect either to them or us. For until we are stricken with some fear of more danger, we scarce do in particular bethink our selves, nor then as we ought, for former deliverances: Fear of more Plagues make us a little to remember the Powder-Plot, and noise of new and greater

Thankful

preparation to War and destruction, have forced us to recount that most savage Massacre of the People of this Land, intended by that *Spanish Armado*, and so are we desirous now to insinuate with thee, O Almighty God, for new favours, by striving more particularly, every man some way to remember and acknowledge thy former mercies: and yet there was a deliverance beyond these already mentioned, from the Tyranny of Popish Superstition and Idolatry, of which we have not yet thought, or at least not yet

Remembrances.

yet in this our special
thanksgiving acknowledged.
For in the Year 1605.
had not the Lord been on
our side, when Men rose
up against us, they had
then swallowed us up
quick; when their wrath
was inflamed, and the Fire
almost kindled; yet that
Fire had not reached our
Bodies, and thou (O God)
couldst have delivered us
in that Fire as thou didst
the three Children, that
it should not so much as
have scorched our cloaths;
yea, thou didst so deliver
us; and more, when as the
Actors themselves were
licked up with the flames

O S

of

Thankful

of their own Fire: But there was a Fire that struck at our Souls, not only the feigned burning Fire of Purgatory, but the Fire of Spiritual Whoredom and *Romish* Idolatry, that would even have reached & over-reached our Souls; the fury thereof would have drunk up our Spirit; yea, all the true pious Graces of thy good Spirit in us. In his deliverance in the year 1588, the Waves; yea, the proud Waves, although they threatned horribly, yet could they but have drowned our Bodies: But in the swelling time of Popery there were

Remembrances.

were proud Waves, that did, and would still have gone over our Souls, yea, those proud Waves of blind Superstition and Popish Tyranny would have gone over our Souls. What thanks can we render unto thee (O God) that didst not still give us over as a prey into those Teeth, whereby Death and Hell would have gnawn upon us, and never consumed us? Praised be thy Name, O Lord, who didst then save some of our fore-fathers by plucking them as brands out of that Fire, as Lot out of Sodom, thou didst save them from that
Spiritual

Thankful

Spiritual Deluge, as *Noah* and his Sons from the drowning of the whole World : Praised be thy Name for them. But what praise can we yield unto thee, O Lord, sufficient for our selves, to whom thou hast continued this Rescue now more than from one Generation to another, & still continuest it? Our best thanks, O Lord, are less than the least of thy other Mercies in delivering us from temporal dangers. Then loe hear a Reason, Lord, why we have been so long, and must be still as good as mute and still, in this great deliverance
from

Remembrances.

from the eternal ruine of our Souls, because we can never sufficiently praise thee for those favours of Eternity, till we come to Eternity, there to praise thee for ever and ever: Yet in the mean time, O Lord, we desire to acknowledge the Glory of thy Grace: And we may be able to conceive and consider it.

The *Marian* days of Persecution were fierce and cruel; in them thou didst hide thy Face from thy Church in this Land: But it was but for a moment in comparison of the Mercy which followed
in

Thankful.

in the days of blessed *Elizabeth*, that great Instrument of thy Glory, and our good. The People did then hide themselves in their Chambers, nay, in the Dens and Caves of the Earth, with the old Saints. But it was but for a very little time, in respect of the time, wherein thou hast enlarged us, and brought us forth into the gracious Liberty of the Sons of God; when thou didst bring her from the Prison to the Palace, and not only as *Joseph*, to be a Prince in *Egypt*, but to be a Queen of thine own peculiar People, when thou didst
bring

Remembrances.

bring back her captivity
and ours, as the Rivers in
the South; then was this
our Church as in a dream,
and when we saw it was
truth, then were our
Mouths filled with laugh-
ter, and our Tongues with
joy. And though the *Mi-
chils* of *Saul's* House may
deride and scoff at those
devout Exultations, and
divine Raptures of thy Ser-
vants, yet let us with holy
David be content to be
more vile in their sight
while thou shalt please to
continue their burthen;
and that our Songs, which
we make to thee in our
own Land, and our Rejoy-
cings

Thankful

cings in thee, may prove more burthenſome to them: And, good Lord, do not thou ever ſuffer our thankfulneſs to fall ſo low, as to make thee cut off thy loving-kindneſs in diſpleaſure, or our ſinfulneſs to grow ſo high as to damp the light of thy Goſpel amongſt us, or to cauſe thy hand to remove our Candleſtick, but make it firm, O Lord, by thy power, and enlarge the light thereof into all the Congregations of this Kingdom. Let it alſo break into their houſes that ſhut their doors, and into their hearts that ſhut their eyes againſt it. And for the better

Remembrances.

better promoting hereof,
as thou didst bless that Pa-
triarch of the Church, great
James, our late dread So-
vereign, as the Man of thy
right Hand, and didst send
him among us to continue
the Light of thy Gospel,
from the days of that Fa-
mous *Elizabeth* till now;
so we beseech thee more-
over, to bless his Son our
gracious Sovereign of hap-
py being, that he may de-
fend us in the same untill
his Death: Bless also the
Heir of his Crown, Prince
Charles, and at the last
commend it to those that
come after, in no less, but
rather greater lustre. Good
Lord

Thankful

Lord make this his only Son as thy Son, and as thy pleasant Child, that he may take delight in thee, and in the remembrance of thy great and holy Name. Let thy Name be to him as a strong Tower, to which he may always resort. O gracious Lord God, do thou so establish the King's Throne & his Posterities in Truth and Judgment, that they may not only be constant in the professing, but strong in promoting of thy Truth, for defence of thy Faith, and the maintenance of all just and righteous Causes, so shall thy Glory be great in their Salvation, and
our

Remembrances.

our Salvation great by that
glory of thy Grace, which
by them thou shewest us.
And so shall we, and ours
after us, offer sacrifices of
praise and thankfulness to
thy glorious Name, from
Generation to Generation
for evermore. *Amen.*

Thankful

A Thanksgiving for the miraculous stay of the Plague, and our gracious preservation from it, 1625.

76 **O** Father of Mercy, and God of all Consolation, our only hope and succour, which art still (as ever) our help in time of need, our refuge at all times: Upon the bended knees of our Souls we give thee most hearty thanks for all thy unspeakable blessings with which thou hast continually preserved us, and for thy gracious Providence over us unto this day. Let us remember before

Remembrances.

fore thee the times of our distractions, when with frightened horror we did run and fly for our lives in the sight of death, and thy destroying Angel, which thou hadst set with his drawn Sword in the midst of our great City, & in divers parts of this Land; yet as we fled, knowing we could not fly from thee, & finding our sins hang fast on us, we looked every hour to fall into the Pit, or to be reached by thy hand. Heaven indeed stood open to receive the Godly, and happy they that went thither; but Hell gaped also to receive the Wicked and Ungodly, and woe to them

Thankful

them for ever. The Bells were still tolling to call some or other to their last home, & our hearts always trembling for fear of our selves, or our eyes weeping for loss of our Friends: Wheresoever we went, at home or abroad, griefs and lamentations were our Companions, sighs & sobs our Comforter, whilst woe and misery were our daily Objects. The dross of this World was then worth nought; we would have given all that we had, so we might have bribed Death, & taken any condition for longer Life: But no Man might ransom himself, or
re-

Remembrances.

redeem his Brother. The
raging Pestilence took a-
way the rich with the poor,
the young with the aged, &
leaving our houses desolate
did fill our Sepulchers with
the Dead. But now when
thine Angry Countenance
had a while been bent a-
gainst us to make us look
back upon our selves, and
we were almost past hopes;
when in our judgment the
flying sickness was most
likely to scatter further into
all parts of the Land, then
when we were in the midst
of this misery, thou re-
membredst thy mercy, then
thou of thy great goodness,
& free favour, turn'dst thy
fury

Thankful

fury to clemency; & when
in Justice thou mightest
have swept us all from the
face of the Earth, & never
more to let us have been a
People, then commandest
thou the slaying Angel to
sheath his Sword, & in the
midst of this our desola-
tion, it pleased thee most
wonderfully to command
health and salvation, & to
restore us suddenly to joy
and gladness. We saw thy
great mercies, O Lord, far
to surpass our hope; and all
the World doth see and
know that thou art more
merciful, than we can be
thankful, thou hast resto-
red health & comfort again
unto

Remembrances.

unto us, and given yet a longer day to thine unprofitable Servants; thou hast offered us conditions of peace, if we shall not now be mindful of them. Lord make every one of us whom thou hast preserved from, or delivered out of the jaws of Death, wisely careful to make a right use of this respite, & to redeem the time, that none of us return with the Dog to his Vomit, to run any longer after those sins that so made us run from our houses, & from our dearest Friends, & will if we go on in them without repentance, send us with a vengeance, utter

P

ly

ly from thy blessed Presence: But, Lord, be thou as wonderful in rescuing our Souls from the power of our prevailing sins, as thou wert in delivering our Bodies from that raging sickness, and settle our Hearts in thy fear, that we may ever find thy favour. And good Lord God, we beseech thee, make us ever thankfully mindful of this great mercy to our selves, and wonderful deliverance of our Land, from that noysom sickness, and fearful Plague; and accept, we pray thee, this our humble Sacrifice, where we desire to offer up our selves
with

Remembrances.

with these our most hearty
Thanks and Prayers unto
Thee, in the Mediation of
Jesus Christ our Lord and
Saviour. *Amen.*



*Another thanksgiving for the
stay of the Plague, and our
deliverance from it, 1665.*

77 **W**E will magnifie
thee, O God,
our King, and will praise
thy Name for ever and
ever; because in the midst
of wrath, remembering mer-
cy, thou hast delivered our
Souls from death, and pre-
served us from the noyson

Thankful

Pestilence. It is not for our righteousness, O Lord, nor for the cleanness of our Hands in thy sight, that when Thousands better than our selves have fallen besides us, and Ten Thousands at our right hand, destruction has not come nigh us, but we yet remain alive, as it is this day. 'Tis thou, O Lord, who dost wound and heal again, killest and makest alive, bringest to Hell and back from thence. Thou hast vouchsafed above all humane Aids and Means, such is thy Power & Goodness, to command thy Angel to stay his hand, and spare us. We therefore

Remembrances.

fore offer up unto thee at once, the oblation of hearty thanksgiving for this our great deliverance, and of humble and earnest Prayer for all those that are yet afflicted, beseeching thee for thy Son Jesus Christ his sake, to be gracious unto them & us, that both they and we in joynt affection, may acknowledge the Justice of thy Punishment, and Record thine infinite Mercy in sparing us miserable sinners: And this we do in the Name of thy Son, and our Saviour, to whom, with thee, and the Holy Ghost, be all praise & glory now and ever. *Amen.*

P 3 Almighty

Thankful

A Almighty God, who in thy late dreadful Visitation hast covered with thy Hand thine Anointed Servant our gracious Sovereign Lord King *James*, so that no evil has happened unto him: And also hast compassed with thy merciful protection, the Queen and the whole Royal Family, so that no Plague has come nigh their Dwelling: We acknowledge with all thankfulness this thy distinguishing, conspicuous Mercy vouchsafed at once unto his Majesty and his Dominions: Beseeching thee to continue still thy gracious

Remembrances.

gracious goodnes towards
them, to the glory of thy
Name, and the welfare and
prosperity of thy Church;
and this we beg for Jesus
Christ his sake. *Amen.*

F I N I S.

5
Verses of MAN'S MORTALITY.

With others.

Of the hope of his RESURRECTION.

78 **L**ike as the Damask Rose you see,
Or like the Blossom on a Tree.

Or like the dainty Flower in May,
Or like the Morning to the Day,
Or like the Sun, or like the Shade,
Or like the Count which ~~you~~ had;

Even

Even such is Man, whose thread is spun,
Drawn out, and cut, and so is done.

The Rose withers, the Blossom blasteth,
The Flower fades, the Morning hasteeth;
The Sun sets, the Shadow flies,

The Gourd consumes, and Man he dies.

Like to the Grass that's newly sprung,

Or like a Tale that's new begun,

Or like the Bird that's here to day,

Or like the pearled dew of *May*.

Verses of Man's Mortality.

Or like an Hour, or like a Span,
Or like the singing of a Swan.

Even such is Man who lives by breath,
Is here, now there, in life and death.

The Grass withers, the Tale is ended,
The Bird is flown, the Dew's ascended,
The Hour is short, the Span not long,
The Swan's near Death, Man's life is done.

Like

Like to the Bubble in the Brook;

Or in a Glass, much like a Look;

Or like the Shuttle in Weaver's hand,

Or like the Writing on the Sand,

Or like a Thought, or like a Dream,

Or like the gliding of the Stream;

Even such is Man, who lives by breath,

Is here, now there, in life and death;

The Bubble's cut, the Look's forgot,

The Shuttle's hung, the Writings blot.

The

Verses of Man's Mortality.

The Thought is past, the Dream is gone,
The Water glide, Man's life is done.

Like to an Arrow from the Bow,
Or like swift course of water flow,
Or like that time, 'twixt Flood and Ebb,
Or like the Spider's tender Webbe,
Or like a Race, or like a Gale,
Or like the dealing of a Deale,

||

Even

Even such is Man, whose brittle state

Is always subject unto Fate:

The Arrow's shot, the Flood soon spent,

The Time no Time, the Web soon rent,

The Race soon run, the Gole soon won,

The Dale soon dealt, Man's life soon done,

Like to the Lightning from the Sky,

Or like a Post that quick doth hic,

Or like a Quaver in short Song,

Or like a Journey three days long,

Or like a Journey three days long,

Of

Verſes on Man's Mortality.

Or like the ſnow when Summer's come,
Or like the Pear, or like the Plum:
Even ſuch is Man, who heaps up ſorrow,
Lives but this day, and dies to morrow.
The Lightning's paſt, the Poſt muſt go,
The Song is ſhort, the Journey ſo,
The Pear doth rot, the Plum doth fall,
The Snow diſſolves, and ſo muſt all.

Verſes

Verſes

ON MAN'S RESURRECTION.

Like to the Seed put in Earth's Womb,
Or like dead *Lazarus* in his Tomb,
Or like *Tubias* being aſleep,
Or *Jonas* like within the deep,
Or like the Night or Stars by Day,
Which ſeem to vaniſh clean away:

Even

Verses on Man's Resurrection.

Even so this death Man's life bereaves,
But being dead, Man death deceives.

The Seed it springeth; *Lux* the standeth,

Tabitha wakes, and *Jona* landeth,

This Night is past, the Stars remain;

So Man that dies shall live again.

Ador's mōta vīd mōtō.

The

The B E L L - M A N ' S S O U N D .

For the Fifth of November.

79 **A** Wake Britain's Subjects all with one accord,
Extol and Praise, and Magnifie the Lord.
Humble your selves, and with Devotion sing
Praises of thanks to God for our most gracious King.
This was the Night, when in a darksome Cell,
Treason was found in Earth, but hatch'd in Hell.

And

The Bell-Man's Jourd for the Fift of November.

And had it took effect, what would avail our sorrow !
The rain being laid to have blown's up o' th' morrow.
Yet God, our Guide, reveal'd the damned Plot,
And they themselves destroy'd, and we were not.
Then let us not forget him thanks to render,
That hath preserv'd and kept our Faith & Defender.

The

THE BEL-L-MAN'S SOUN D.

80 THE Night's well spent, the day draws nigh,
Awake from sleep and sin desc.

All sluggish sloth expel away,
Have still in mind the Judgment Day,
When Dead shall rise, and Trumpets Call,
The Graves shall open wide withal.
Awake from sleep, awake from sin,
With voice and heart to call on him.

Who

Who from above pleas'd to descend,
From Satan's Malice us to defend.
Our forfeit Soule to thar rich Grace,
Where we may still behold his Face,
Let us repair, and God implore,
That henceforth we transgress no more,
And that our joy be at this tide,
That we in him be satisfi'd:
Then shall we all for his dear sake
Be blest asleep, be blest awake.

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3 First prepare thy heart, then seek the Lord by Prayer.

4 What gesture we are to use in Prayer.

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6 A Direction in preparation to Prayer.

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8 Some special passages of Gods Word gathered up, wherewith the poor soul that is distressed, may find comfort.

9 To help the repenters Faith by the mercy and grace of God in Christ, meditate on these and such like places.

10 Holy sentences containing useful matter of Meditation, and how to frame a Prayer.

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68. A Prayer to be used upon the 20th of May, being the day of his Majesties Birth and happy return to his Kingdoms.

69. A devout Prayer against the Plague in the time of Common Visitation.

70. A special Remedy for a sick Soul; wherein the sinner may recover himself from the Valley of Tears, to the Hill of Joy: Or, a Meditation for the Plague.

71. A Prayer for King Edward the 6th.

72. A Prayer to be used upon the 21st, 30th, and 4th of Sept. being the days that the greatest part of the City of London was consumed by Fire.

73. A Thanksgiving for our deliverance from the unmatchable Popish Gun-powder Treason, 1605.

74. A Thanksgiving for our deliverance from the Spanish Invasion, in 1588.

75. A Thanksgiving for the deliverance of this Land from Popish Superstition and Tyranny.

76. A Thanksgiving for the miraculous stay of the Plague, and the gracious Preservation from it, 1625.

77. Another Thanksgiving for the stay of the Plague, and our deliverance from it, 1665.

78. Verses of Mans Mortality; with others of his Resurrection.

79. The Bell-mans Sound on the fifth of November.

80. With other of the Bell-mans Sounds.



The Th

The whole
Fleet,

Some } 10
 } 80

25 Ureas

19 Pinaces
With the
bottoms wit
Haven, an
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Foot Comp
Italians, 6
Faget. The



A Chanke full Remen 16ancci: 1588

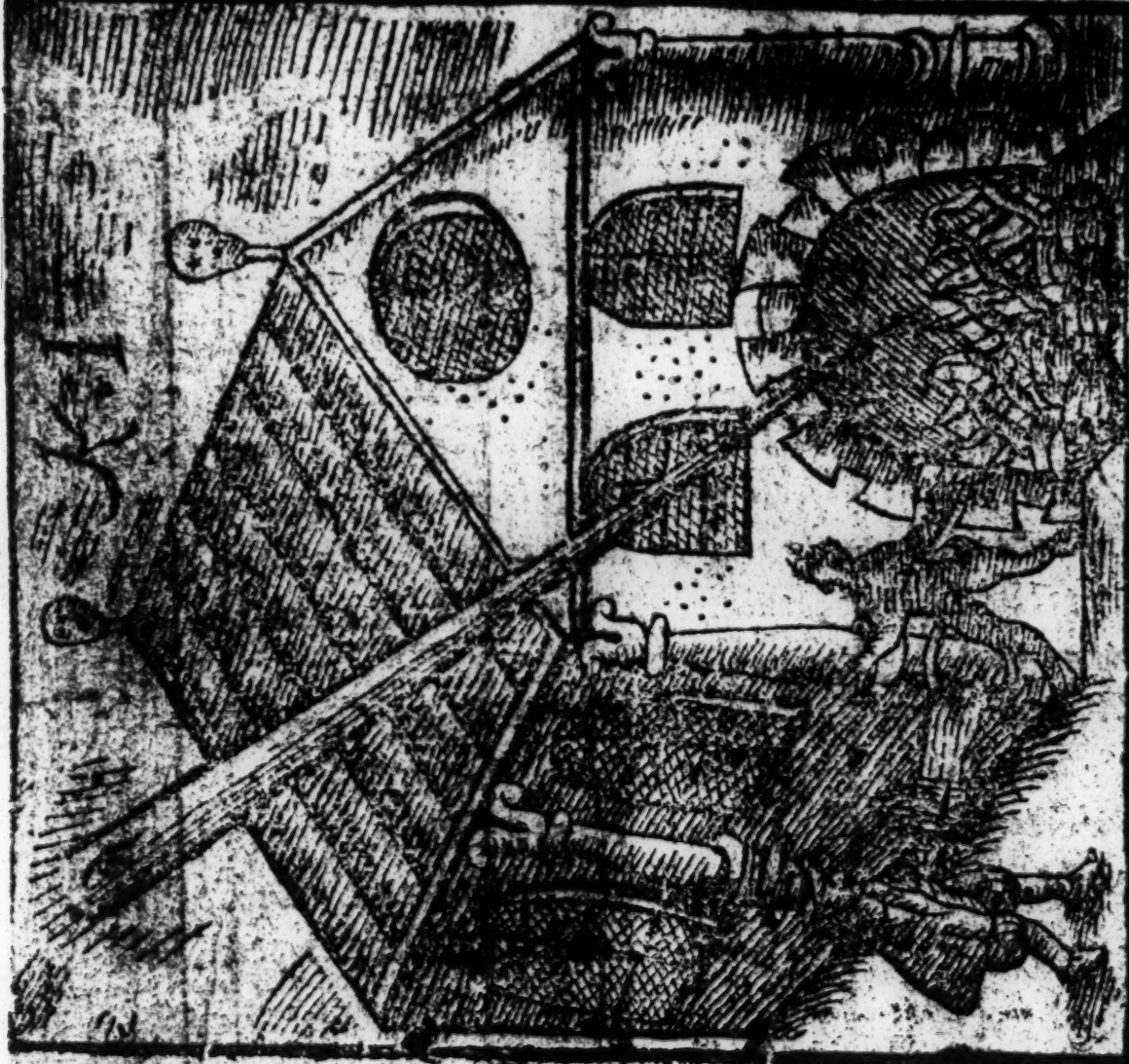
*A discovery of our wonderful Deliverance from the hellish and horrible Powder-Treason,
the Fifth of November, 1605.*

The manner of finding out this horrible Treason (by the great goodness of God) was by the mystical sense of a Letter, which (for memory to Posterity) is here inserted as it was sent to the Lord Manners.

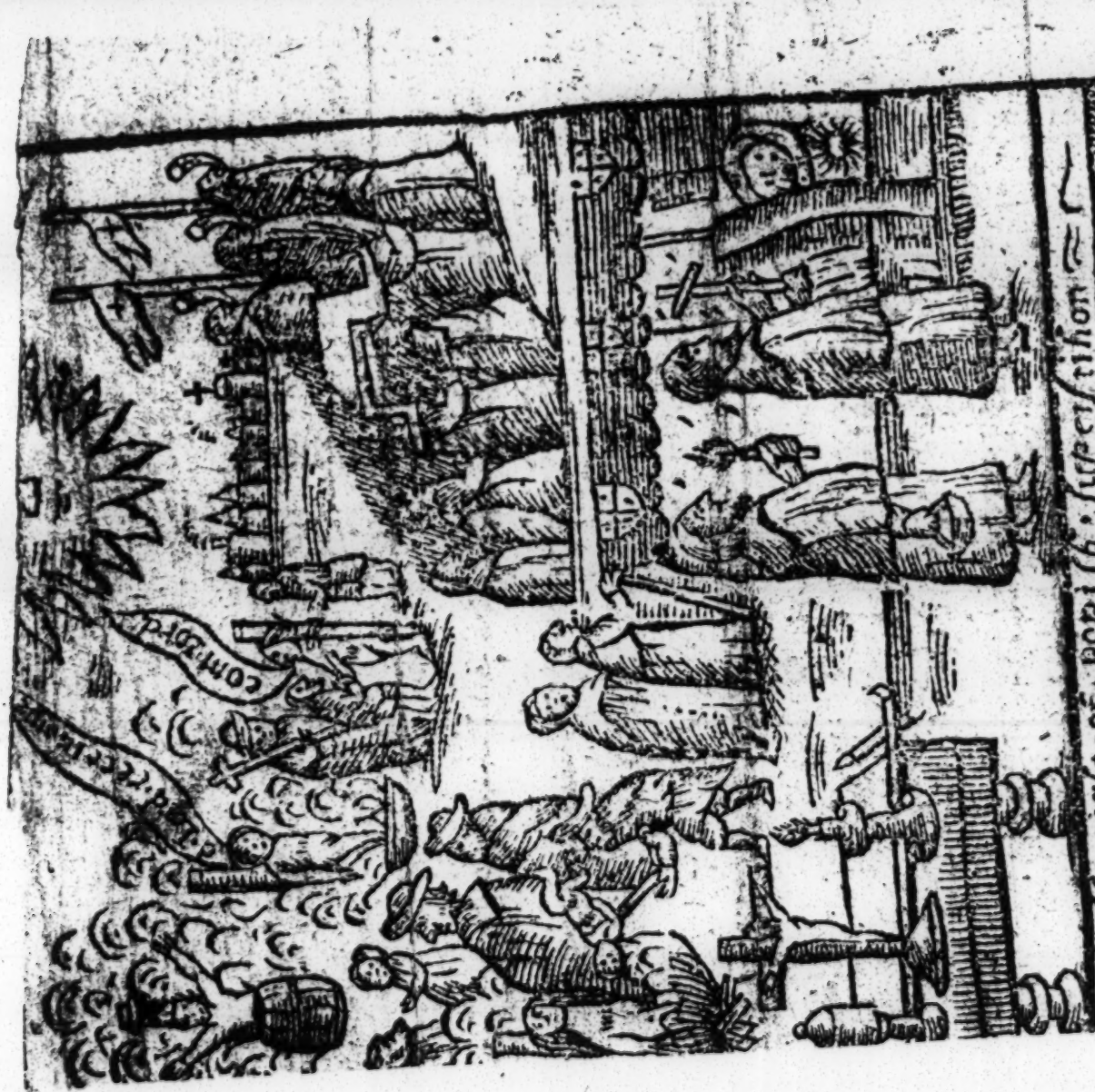
MY Lord, out of the Love I bear to some of your Friends, I have a care of your preservation: therefore would advise you as you tender your life, to devise some excuse to shift off your attendance at this place. For God and Man have conspired to punish the wickedness of this time: and think not slight of this advertisement, but retire your self into your Country, where you may expect the event with safety; for though there be no appearance of any stir, yet I say, they shall receive a terrible blow this Parliament, and yet they shall not see who hurt them: This counsel is not to be contemned, because it may do you good, and can do you no harm, for the danger is past as soon as you have burnt the Letter; and I hope God will give you the grace to make good use of it, to whose holy protection I commend you.

The Traytors Names.	{	Everard Digby, Knight	{	Robert Winter, Esq;	{	Christopher Wright, Gent.
		Robert Catesby, Esquire		Thomas Percy, Gent.		John Grant, Gent.
		Ambrose Rocwood, Esq;		Thomas Winter Gent.		Robert Keys, Gent.
		Francis Tresham, Esq;		John Wright, Gent.		Guy Faulx and Bates, Catesbies Men.
		Barrels of Powder, 36.			Faggots to cover them, 500.	The Billets, 1900.

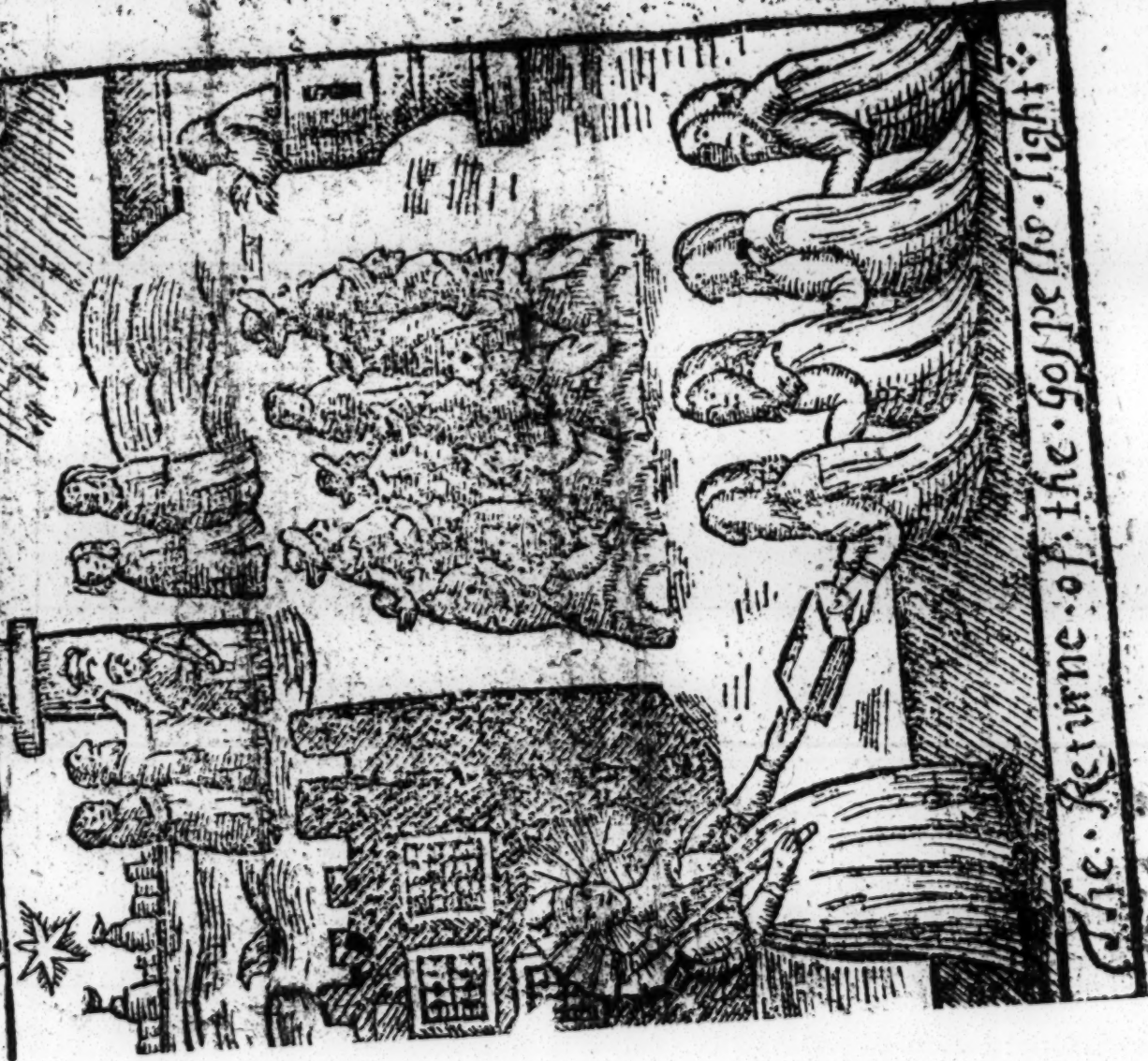




The: new order full: d'uriance: 1605



The night of popish Superstition



The Returne of the Gospellers Light

There were Martyred in five years of *Queen Maries* days, about the number of 260. as you may see more particularly their names, time, and place of suffering, in the *Book of the Fiery Tryal*, and the occasions more at large, in the *Book of Martyrs*.





fast

Mercy seat

Thanks

Miracles of mercy:

...from 1624 to 1665 years of Pestilence 1625. and 1665.
With Prayers, and Thanksgivings pertinent to such sad times, which God of his infinite mercy
deliver us from; and for a Remembrancer, I have here inserted the true number that died in
the City of London, and the Liberties thereof, in the said Year, viz.

From the 17 of December 1624. to the 15 of December 1625. died of all Diseases
63001. of the Plague 41313. whereof in one Week, August 18. 1625. of all Diseases
2505. of the Plague 4463.

From the 20 of December 1664. to the 19 of December 1665. died of all Diseases
97206. of the Plague 68596. whereof in one Week, Septemb. 19. 1665. of all Diseases
8297. of the Plague 4463.

